

THE DIOGENES REPORT

“a few steps ahead of the curve”

The Wit, Wisdom & Wituperation of Emanuel L. Strunin

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SAVE IT FOR THE ELDERHOSTEL

What a revelation this country is undergoing. There is dishonesty abroad and underfoot. Many people with power in their grubby little hands are crooks.

This is indeed unwelcome news for those folks whose knowledge of the world goes back as far as two weeks. Others of us with somewhat longer memories and a wee bit of knowledge of history are likely to say, “what’s new?”

The namesake of this report, that redoubtable Greek cynic walked the streets of Athens some 2,500 years ago carrying a lantern during high noon looking for “an honest man” There is no record in the ancient writings as to whether he ever found one.

Even further back than that, we were given a commandment which unequivocally stated, “Don’t Steal”. The whole civilized world has heard these words. So the crooks, thieves, robbers, embezzlers, plunderers, etc., etc. know what we are talking about. If they didn’t learn it at home, in church, at the synagogue, at the temple in school, in the street or in the mosque, oops, that’s no one’s problem but their own.

From a publication put out by my college, I see that the professors have entered the business ethics business. While the school has been teaching business ethics—obviously, to very little effect—the Philosophy and Economics Departments now plan to institute a “cross-disciplinary training program that gives business majors a firm foundation in reasoning, logic, and moral and social philosophy.” The reason: “the modern business world has never been more complicated”. Or maybe, the academics have never been more simpleminded.

Every one of the business scandals that has hit the headlines has been a “no-brainer”. The right vs. wrongs, the honest vs. dishonest moves are obvious to a junior high school student without an interdisciplinary training program.

Maybe the school should bring in some Saudi professors to give Islamic examples of how to deal with the CEOs and CFOs who stick their hands in the till. Swish—no fingers—unless, of course, you are a member of the royal family. Since we are more civilized, lets just throw these guys into real prisons with rapists, murderers and drug dealers for a minimum of 10 years. This may not deter future crooks but it will make stockholders, laid-off employees and 401K victims a lot happier.

By the way, maybe the college can start an interdisciplinary training program for historians and other writers to keep them from committing plagiarism. Better yet, let’s

not teach these courses until the potential miscreants attend elder hostels, so that their behavior will not interfere with their careers.

ON WHOSE SIDE IS TIME?

We often hear the mantra that Israel should come to an accommodation with the “Palestinians”—on “Palestinian” terms, of course—since “time is on the side of the Arabs.” A current news story about the role of Russia as a major oil and gas supplier to the U. S. and Europe gave me reason to reevaluate the validity of that mantra.

When you study recorded history, you can come to only one conclusion: Time Is On The Side Of The Jews. Where are all of the short term winners—the Egyptians, the Philistines, the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Persians, the Parthians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Crusaders, the Ottomans, the British, and the Germans among others? Another short-term winner, the Arabs, will soon be back in the desert tents from which they made their grand entrance on the world scene. With Russia, the Stans and other sources of oil, and oil-replacement technology in the wind, the time will be here before too long when no one will give a damn about the opinions of Saudi Arabia and friends.

The Jews, who were on the receiving end of all of the abuse handed out by these one-time powerhouses, are still around supporting the world, shaking up the world and reminding the world that it still has a slim chance of redemption.

So the next time someone tells you that time is not on the side of the Jews, shove the words back down their throat.

ACROSS MY RADAR SCREEN

The Fixer Upper

From all of the news stories coming out of Washington, it seems that Iraq will soon become a fixer upper. But even before the demolition begins which will turn that country into a slumlord’s paradise, Congress and the media are debating as to who will foot the bill for the fix-up. I say let’s turn this question into a no-brainer. Let their oil-soaked Arab brothers in the hood pay for most of it. That’s Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the sheikhdoms. This will give them the opportunity to prove their claims about Arab brotherhood and Islamic charity. The rest of the cost will come from the confiscated assets of Saddam and his fellow gangstas which they will be forced to disgorge from Swiss banks and other institutions around the world.

The U. S. should not contribute one red cent since we will be paying for the cost of the demolition.

Get A Seeing Eye Dog That Can Read

That's my advice to the PPPM* of Israel, Ariel Sharon. The blind Muslim cleric who engineered the first World Trade Center bombing had clearer vision than the PPPM* who should be reading the international law as to what constitutes an act of war. Unfortunately, his sight has been destroyed by a seemingly inoperable case of cataracts. That's why he needs a seeing eye dog that can read to him. The members of his cabinet and the General Staff apparently have been similarly infected.

Let's overlook for a moment—but not forget—that Israel's next door neighbor with whom it has a "peace treaty" continues to arm itself to the teeth despite the fact that it has no enemies against whom these armaments can be used effectively. For a more immediate casus belli let's go to the tunnels running from Egypt to Gaza through which massive amounts of weapons are being "smuggled" into Gaza. Every time a tunnel is destroyed by the IDF others are built. You don't have to be a rocket scientist—even an Egyptian rocket scientist—to know that the Egyptian Government is active involved in this smuggling process.

If the PPPM* had balls, he would be able to say what happened to the Egyptian army, air force, navy and smugglers is water over the dam.

*Powder Puff Prime Minister

Another Leadership Problem

A former Refusnik, who knows the Jewish situation in Russia and the Russian situation in Israel well, complains that the Jewish Agency is undermining both situations. Under the direction of chairman Salai Meridor, the agency is bringing in many Russians of questionable or non-Jewish background. Meridor apparently has a personal agenda which is to roll up big immigration numbers regardless of the problems his approach is causing. He is bringing a stream of Russian Jew-haters into Israel while neglecting to do the more difficult work of encouraging aliyah of genuine Jews. Perhaps they can develop a standard operation at Hadassah Hospital to remove part of the ego of prospective Jewish leaders before they obtain power.

HEADLINES AND COMMENTS

Headlines from the world's press. Comments by Diogenes.

Musical Chairs On Tax Havens: Now It's Ireland

Save money and get a load on.

For Zimbabwe's White Farmers, Time To Move On

African logic: the people are starving so close down the productive farms.

U. S. To Resume Aid To Train Indonesia's Military Forces

Minorities in Indonesia beware!

7 Held In Chicago In 2 Beating Deaths After Vehicle Crash

Drunk driving penalties are really tough in the windy city.

Virtual Visitation—Judge Lets Father Relate To Children Via Computer

Delete!

Skating Ethics Board Proposed

I think they'll be skating on thin ice.

Hurricane Expert Takes Balmier View Of Storm Season

I always said most experts are balmy.

Taiwan's Sovereignty Comments Raise Hackles

Next thing they'll say is Confucius wasn't Chinese.

Palestinians Nix Israeli Withdrawal Proposal

Of course. They didn't offer to withdraw from all of Israel.

Saudis Won't Help If U. S. Attacks Iraq

You can't expect them to be in a two-front war.

They're already helping al Qaeda attack the U. S.

Scientists: Vapor From Jets Affects Temperature

They ain't just blowin' smoke.

**Wiesenthal Center Calls On World Leaders To Speak Out
Against Palestinian Terror**

What! They should violate their religious principles?

Egyptian Twins Pose Religious Dilemma

The dilemma is: how do you separate Siamese twins

so that they both can become suicide bombers?

Nuns Turn Hospice Into Home

Remember what Polly Adler, the famous NY madam said: a house is not a home.

QUOTES I LIKE

Absence of occupation is not rest,
A mind quite vacant is a mind distressed.

William Cowper

Men will confess to treason, murder, arson, false teeth or a wig.
How many of them will own up to a lack of humor?

Frank Colby

If we are to abolish the death penalty, let our friends the murderers make the first move.

Alphonse Karr

Ours is a world where people don't know what they want
and are willing to go through hell to get it.

Don Marquis

Few sinners are saved after the first 20 minutes of a sermon.

Mark Twain

Crime is a logical extension of the sort of behavior that is often considered perfectly respectable in legitimate business.

Robert Rice

Love, the quest; marriage, the conquest; divorce, the inquest.

Helen Rowland

Those who don't study the past will repeat its errors;
those who do study it will find other ways to err.

Charles Wolfe, Jr.

A doctor can bury his mistakes, but an architect can only advise his clients to plant vines.

Frank Lloyd Wright

I sometimes think that God, in creating man, somewhat overestimated his ability.

Oscar Wilde

Which is it: is man one of God's blunders, or is God one of man's blunders?

Friedrich W. Nietzsche

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