Obama to Israel: Drop Dead

December 29, 2016

By [Cal Thomas](http://www.washingtontimes.com/staff/cal-thomas/)

The Washington Times

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/dec/28/obama-abandons-israel/>

A headline that would become famous appeared in the New York Daily News in October 1975 after President Gerald Ford denied federal assistance to spare the city from bankruptcy. It read: “Ford to City: Drop Dead.”

President [Obama](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/barack-obama/) has told [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) much the same. By instructing his U.N. ambassador not to veto a resolution condemning [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) for building so-called “settlements” on disputed land, the president has aided and comforted that nation’s enemies. The U.S. abstention will inevitably invite stepped-up attacks against Israelis, as well as calls for more boycotts by the European Union, whose ugly anti-Semitic past and present is well documented.

In the Middle East, symbols can be more important than substance, and this symbolic act will send a strong message to [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/)’s enemies.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the resolution a “shameful ambush” and “distorted,” noting, “It states that the Jewish quarter and Western Wall (in Jerusalem) are occupied, which is absurd.” Netanyahu, who has had a tense relationship with President [Obama](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/barack-obama/), suggested he expects better relations between the U.S. and [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) after Donald Trump becomes president.

Mr. Netanyahu likes to cite history to show how the Jews were in the land long before Arab peoples showed up and started rewriting the past to the point that it belongs in the fiction section of bookstores.

What makes anyone think that what [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) does, or does not do, has any effect on the behavior and declared religious mandate of those dedicated to eliminating the country and killing and/or expelling every Jew from it? Did unilaterally relinquishing Gaza bring [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) closer to peace? It did not. Instead, it invited Hamas to use the region as a launching pad for terrorist attacks. It is the same with agreements between Palestinian and Israeli leaders. [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) released terrorist prisoners and got more terror. [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) gave up land and got more terror. Only the deliberately blind and deaf who refuse to believe the stated and repeated goals of Palestinian leadership and much of the Arab world (and Iran) to eliminate [Israel](http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/israel/) still think that the key to peace and stability lies solely with that country.