

## Terrorist stabbing attack leaves 18-year-old woman in serious condition

The terrorist has been neutralized by a civilian, according to Maariv, and an additional suspect was captured nearby.

By [DANIELLE GREYMAN-KENNARD](#) APRIL 26, 2024 16:59 Updated: APRIL 26, 2024 18:18



Terrorist stabbing attack in Ramle leaves 18-year-old woman in serious condition (photo credit: MAGEN DAVID ADOM)

An 18-year-old woman was stabbed by a terrorist in Ramle, central Israel, on Friday afternoon, according to Magen David Adom.

The woman is in serious condition, as the terrorist stabbed her upper body. She is now being treated in Shamir Assaf Harofeh Hospital.

The terrorist has been neutralized by a civilian, according to Maariv, and an additional suspect was captured nearby.

Treating the victim of the attack

MDA received the call at 16:41 and paramedics were quickly on the scene.

Terrorist stabbing attack in Ramle leaves 18-year-old woman in serious condition. (credit: MAGEN DAVID ADOM)

MDA Medicycle Unit EMT Mendy Amitai said

"We were rapidly on scene, found an 18-year-old conscious female with a stab wound to her upper body. We dressed the injury and stopped the bleeding, and she was evacuated in an MDA MICU to hospital, conscious and in serious condition."



National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir and Police Chief of the Central District Avi Bitton visited the scene.

Departing the scene, Ben-Gvir reportedly was involved in a minor car accident, and taken to the hospital in good condition.

Itamar Ben-Gvir at the scene of the Ramle terror attack, April 26 2024. (credit: Courtesy)

<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-798802>



## Israeli civilian killed in Hezbollah missile attack on Lebanon border

Sharif Suad was doing infrastructure work for the IDF in Mount Dov area; in response, fighter jets hit terror group's sites across south Lebanon

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 10:51 am



Sharif Suad, killed in a Hezbollah missile attack on the Lebanon border, early April 26, 2024. (Courtesy)

An Israeli civilian contracted by the military was killed in a Hezbollah anti-tank missile attack on the Mount Dov area on the border with Lebanon overnight, the Israel Defense Forces said Friday morning. The man was identified by media reports as Sharif Suad, a

**resident of the Bedouin town of Sallama near Karmiel.** Some reports said he was from Ras al-Ein, an adjacent Arab town.

**Suad, a father of two, had been carrying out “infrastructure activity” for the military in the Mount Dov area amid the missile attack,** the IDF said.

**The activity was part of efforts by the IDF to improve its defenses on the border. Currently, there is no border fence in the Mount Dov area,** also known as Shebaa Farms — an area claimed by Lebanon — which houses several military positions and no towns.

**The Hezbollah terror group said it had targeted two IDF vehicles in the area shortly before midnight.**

**The military said Suad’s death was declared not long after he was hit by one of the two anti-tank missiles.**

**The source of the missile fire was hit by Israeli artillery shelling, the IDF added.**

Footage published by Lebanese media showed an explosion on the mountainside amid the exchange of fire.

[#شاهد تبادل إطلاق النار بين #حزب الله وقوات من "الجيش" الإسرائيلي في مزارع شبعا. #المبيادين #المبيادين لبنان pic.twitter.com/K1P4mXDRzX](https://pic.twitter.com/K1P4mXDRzX)

— المبيادين لبنان (@mayadeenlebanon) April 25, 2024

**Following the attack, the IDF said it struck Hezbollah sites in southern Lebanon’s Chebaa, including a weapons depot and a rocket launcher, and additional sites in Markaba, Kfarchouba, and Ain al-Tineh,** the latter of which is some 20 kilometers (12 miles) from the Israeli border.

Since October 8, Hezbollah-led forces have attacked Israeli communities and military posts along the border on a near-daily basis, with the group saying it is doing so to support Gaza amid the war there.

**So far, the skirmishes on the border have resulted in nine civilian deaths on the Israeli side — including the attack late Thursday — as well as the deaths of 11 IDF soldiers and reservists.** There have also been several attacks from Syria, without any injuries.

Hezbollah has named 287 members who have been killed by Israel during the ongoing skirmishes, mostly in Lebanon, but some also in Syria. In Lebanon, another 54 operatives from other terror groups, a Lebanese soldier and at least 60 civilians, three of whom were journalists, have been killed.

**Israel has threatened to go to war to force Hezbollah away from the border** if it does not retreat and continues to threaten northern communities, from where some 70,000 people were evacuated to avoid the fighting. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-civilian-killed-in-hezbollah-missile-attack-on-lebanon-border/>

## **US troops begin constructing Gaza pier, aiming to have it operational by early May** *Port to start handling 90 aid trucks per day, may reach 150 when fully operational; mortar attack during UN visit to construction site highlights security concerns*

*By Agencies, Emanuel Fabian and Jacob Magid Today, 8:25 am*



*US Army soldiers load an AC unit aboard the USAV Monterey at the pier of the Joint Base Langley-Eustis during a media preview of the 7th Transportation Brigade deployment in Hampton, Virginia, on March 12, 2024. (Roberto Schmidt / AFP)*

**US troops have begun constructing a maritime pier off the coast of Gaza with the aim of speeding up the flow of humanitarian aid into the enclave when it becomes operational in May, the Pentagon said on Thursday.**

**US President Joe Biden announced the construction of the pier in March as aid officials implored Israel to ease access for relief supplies**

into Gaza’s overland routes. Whether the pier will ultimately succeed in boosting humanitarian aid is unclear, as international officials warn of a risk of famine in northern Gaza.

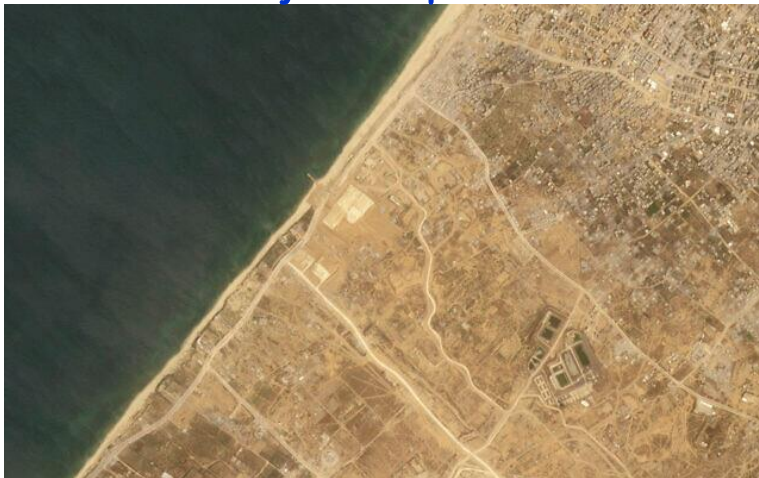
**The port sits just southwest of Gaza City, a little north of a road bisecting Gaza that the Israeli military built during the fighting.** The area was the territory’s most populous region before the Israeli ground

offensive pushed over 1 million people south toward the town of Rafah on the Egyptian border.

Israel's six-month-long military campaign against Hamas, which began after the terror group's October 7 massacre in southern communities, has devastated the Gaza Strip and plunged its 2.3 million people into a humanitarian crisis. **[Housing may be a crisis since there was widespread destruction because of the terrorists and their tunnels which entered many of the buildings but there are many pictures of shuks full of food. The US is using a ploy to build the pier which ultimately will probably be used for terrorist groups to rearm Gaza. "Bi-Dum" and his handlers are terminally wicked. rdb**

A senior Biden administration official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity, said humanitarian aid coming off the pier will need to pass through Israeli checkpoints on land. That is despite the aid having already been inspected by Israel in Cyprus prior to being shipped to Gaza. Israel wants to prevent any aid from getting to Hamas terrorists and boosting their war effort.

The prospect of checkpoints raised questions about possible delays even after aid reaches shore. The United Nations has long complained of obstacles to getting aid in and distributing it throughout Gaza. **The UN is the obstacle to any form of peace in Gaza and the middle east. - rdb**



*This satellite picture taken by Planet Labs PBC shows the construction of a new aid port near Gaza City, Gaza Strip, on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. (Planet Labs PBC via AP)*

**"I can confirm that US military vessels, including the USNS Benavidez, have begun to construct the initial stages of the temporary pier and causeway at sea," Pentagon spokesperson Major General Patrick Ryder told reporters.**

This is how the sea route will work:

- pallets of aid will be inspected and loaded onto mainly commercial ships in Cyprus, which then will sail about 200 miles to the large floating

platform being built by the US military.

- The pallets will be transferred onto trucks, driven onto smaller army vessels, and then taken several miles to the causeway, which will be roughly 1,800 feet (550 meters) long and anchored to the shoreline by the Israeli military.
- The trucks will then go down the causeway to a secure drop-off area, where pallets will be distributed to aid agencies. That mission could last several months, a US military official told the Associated Press.

**A UN official said the port will likely have three zones — one controlled by the Israelis where aid from the pier is dropped off, another where the aid will be transferred, and a third where Palestinian drivers contracted by the UN will wait to pick up the aid before bringing it to distribution points.**

The pier will initially handle 90 trucks a day, but that number could increase to 150 trucks daily when it is fully operational. The United Nations said this week that the daily average number of trucks entering Gaza during April was 200 and that there had been a peak on Monday of 316.

The northern Gaza Strip is still heading toward a famine, the deputy UN food chief said on Thursday, appealing for a greater volume of aid and for Israel to allow direct access from its southern Ashdod port to the Erez crossing.

**Concerns about the risk of American troops getting caught up in the Israel-Hamas war were underscored on Thursday as news emerged of a mortar attack near the area where the pier will eventually touch the ground. No US forces were present, however, and Biden has ordered US forces to not set foot on the Gaza shore.**

**UN officials were touring the site with Israeli troops at the time of the attack,** the Israel Defense Forces said in response to a query on the incident. The IDF said the UN officials were rushed to a

shelter by troops amid the attack.

UN officials also confirmed the mortar attack to AP, saying there were no injuries.

**“The terrorist organizations continue to systematically harm humanitarian efforts while risking the lives of UN workers,** while Israel allows the supply of aid to the residents of the Gaza Strip,” the IDF added.

**No group claimed responsibility for the mortar fire, but a Hamas official told AP Wednesday that the terror group will resist any foreign military presence involved with the port project.**

**In a statement, the IDF said a military brigade, including thousands of soldiers, along with Israeli Navy ships and the Air Force, would work to protect US troops who are setting up the pier.**



*US Army soldiers take photographs of the USAV Monterrey (not pictured) as it pulls away from the pier during a media preview of the 7th Transportation Brigade deployment in Hampton, Virginia, on March 12, 2024. (Roberto Schmidt/AFP)*

**The IDF said in a statement Thursday that it had approved “collaborative efforts” for the Joint Logistics Over The Shore project, known as JLOTS.**

**“The IDF will operate to provide security and logistics support for the JLOTS initiative,** which includes the establishment of a temporary floating pier to deliver humanitarian aid from the sea into Gaza,” the

military said.

“The IDF’s involvement in the JLOTS initiative is one of many humanitarian aid efforts, further demonstrating the IDF’s commitment to working with the international community to ensure the continuous entry of humanitarian aid to the civilian population in the Gaza Strip,” it added.

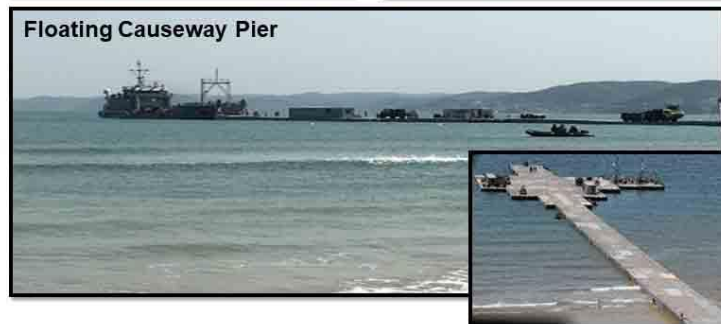
## Joint Logistics Over-the-Shore (JLOTS)

- **What is JLOTS:**

U.S. Army and U.S. Navy forces organized and equipped to conduct joint ship-to-shore operations where fixed port facilities are inadequate or unavailable.

- **What JLOTS can do:**

Offload equipment and cargo in-stream (offshore) and deliver cargo to a restricted port, an expeditionary floating pier, or a bare beach employing shallow draft transport watercraft.



*The US Defense Department’s Joint Logistics Over-the-Shore (JLOTS) capability, as planned for Gaza. The department said on March 8, 2024, that components of the JLOTS include a floating pier, an approximately 1,800-foot-long causeway that will be attached to the shore, and a group of logistic support vessels and barges that will transport the aid from the pier to the causeway. (US Department of Defense)*

**While the port is expected to come into use by May, a senior US military official acknowledged that the final installation of the US-built causeway onto the beach at the port will be governed by the security situation,** which is assessed daily.

**Asked about the recent mortar attack, the military official said the US assessed that it had nothing to do with the humanitarian mission**, adding that security around the port will be “far more robust” when the deliveries start. **[ That so called assessment is terminally delusional and stupid. – rdb]**

**In addition, the US has rehearsed offensive and defensive measures to ensure US troops working at the pier and those on the floating platform several miles offshore are all protected.**

While satellite photos showed major port construction along the shore near Gaza City, aid groups made it clear that they have broad concerns about their safety and reservations about how Israeli forces will handle security.

Aid groups were shaken after an Israeli strike earlier this month killed seven World Central Kitchen volunteers during a mission coordinated with the IDF. The military has [dismissed](#) two officers and formally reprimanded senior commanders over the bombing, which it called a tragic mistake.

Sonali Korde, **an official with the US Agency for International Development, said key agreements for security and handling the aid deliveries are still being negotiated.** Those include how Israeli forces will operate in Gaza to ensure that aid workers are not harmed.

“We need to see steps implemented. And the humanitarian community and IDF continue to talk and engage and iterate and improve the system so that everyone feels safe and secure in this very difficult operating environment,” Korde said.

**The UN’s World Food Program has agreed to lead the aid delivery effort.** Carl Skau, WFP’s deputy executive director, speaking Thursday at the UN, said it’s “necessary for us to be able to operate, reach communities, have access to needs, and to do so in a safe and secure way.” He also said the port mission must be just one part of a broader Israeli effort to improve sustainable land-based deliveries of aid to avert a famine.

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**A UN official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss behind-the-scenes deliberations, said several sticking points remain around how the Israelis would handle the port’s security.** The military is reportedly seeking to install remote-controlled gun positions, which the UN opposes, said the official, although it was not clear what weapons were being described.

Amid difficulties in bringing aid into Gaza, countries have even tried airdropping aid — a tactic that aid groups say is a last-ditch resort because it can’t deliver aid in large quantities and also has led to deaths.

“The more time we spend talking about JLOTS,” said Bob Kitchen, vice president for emergencies with the International Rescue Committee, “the more we talk about airdrops — all of this is massively expensive, comparatively low-scale and is a side-show. It’s a distraction.” <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-troops-begin-constructing-gaza-pier-aiming-to-have-it-operational-by-early-may/>

## **Israel requests release of only 33 hostages in new attempted ceasefire agreement - report**

**The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Israel had no new proposals to make, although it was willing to consider a limited truce in which 33 hostages would be released.**

By REUTERS APRIL 26, 2024 15:37 **Updated:** APRIL 26, 2024 17:49  
*Protesters demonstrate on Israel's beaches to demand government to make hostage release deal, April 19, 2024. (photo credit: Hostage and Missing Families Forum)*



**An Egyptian delegation met Israeli officials on Friday, looking for a way to restart talks to end the war in Gaza and return the remaining Israeli hostages, an official briefed on the meetings said.**

**The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Israel had no new proposals to make, although it was willing to consider a limited truce in which 33 hostages would be released, instead of the 40 previously under discussion.**

**"There are no current hostage talks between Israel and Hamas, nor is there a new Israeli offer in that regard,"** the official said. "What there is, is an attempt by Egypt to restart the talks with an Egyptian proposal that would entail the release of 33

hostages - women, elderly and infirm."

**How many hostages are left alive?**

**Israeli intelligence officials believe there are 33 female, elderly and sick hostages left alive in Gaza, out of a total of 133 still being held by Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups.**

**There was no decision on how long any truce would last but if such an exchange were agreed, the pause in fighting would be "definitely less than six weeks," the official said.**



**Demonstrators protest calling for the release of Israeli hostages held in the Gaza Strip and against the current Israeli government outside Hakiryia Base in Tel Aviv, April 20, 2024. (credit: Itai Ron/Flash90)**

**Hamas said it was "open to any ideas or proposals that take into account the needs and rights of our people." However it stuck to central demands Israel has rejected, and said it criticized the statement for not calling for a permanent ceasefire and the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza.**

**The visit by the Egyptian delegation followed Israeli media reports of a visit to Cairo on Thursday by the Israeli army chief, Lieutenant General Herzi Halevi, and Ronen Bar, the head of Shin Bet, Israel's domestic**

**intelligence service.**

**Egypt, concerned about a potential influx of Palestinian refugees from neighboring Gaza if the war continues with the long-promised Israeli offensive into the southern city of Rafah, has taken an increasingly active role in the negotiations.**

**"The Egyptians are really picking up the mantle on this. Egypt wants to see progress, not least because it's worried about a prospective Rafah operation," the official said.**

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who is not part of the war cabinet, posted to X that the Egyptian delegation came as a result of the threat to go into Rafah, and called for such an operation to begin immediately.

**Qatar increasingly excluded from talks**

**Qatar, the previous main broker, had increasingly been excluded, according to the official, after failing to respond to Israeli demands to expel Hamas leaders from its territory or curb their finances.**

**"Qatar is still involved but in a lesser capacity," the official said. "It's clear to everyone they failed to deliver, even when it came to expelling Hamas or even shutting down their bank accounts."**

**The visit by the Egyptian delegation came a day after the United States and 17 other countries appealed to Hamas to release all of its hostages as a pathway to end the crisis in Gaza. Hamas vowed not to relent to international pressure. <https://www.jpost.com/israel-hamas-war/article-798797>**

## **Netanyahu says ICC decisions will not affect Israel's actions, set dangerous precedent**

**ICC Chief Prosecutor Karim Khan said his team is actively investigating any crimes allegedly committed in Gaza and that those who are in breach of the law will be held accountable.**

*By REUTERS APRIL 26, 2024 17:27 Updated: APRIL 26, 2024 18:54*

**Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Friday that any decisions by the International Criminal Court, which is investigating Hamas' Oct. 7 attacks and Israel's military assault on Gaza, would not affect Israel's actions but would set a dangerous precedent.**

**"Under my leadership, Israel will never accept any attempt by the International Criminal Court in the Hague to undermine its basic right to defend itself," Netanyahu said in a statement on Telegram.**

**"While decisions made by the court in the Hague will not affect Israel's actions, they will set a dangerous precedent that threatens soldiers and public figures," he said.**

**One of Israel's leading television news outlets, Channel 12, reported last week that Israel was increasingly worried by the possibility that the ICC would issue arrest warrants against Netanyahu and other top officials for alleged violations of international law in Gaza.**



*International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor Karim Khan poses during an interview with Reuters at the ICC in The Hague, Netherlands, March 3, 2022. (credit: REUTERS/CHRISTIAN LEVAUX)*

**The report said that the Prime Minister's Office held an "emergency discussion" on the issue.** A government spokesperson did not immediately respond to questions on the Channel 12 report or its details.

**Issues over ICC jurisdiction**

**Israel is not a member of the court, based in The Hague, and does not recognize its jurisdiction, but the Palestinian territories were admitted**

**as a member state in 2015.**

**ICC Chief Prosecutor Karim Khan said in October the court had jurisdiction over any potential war crimes carried out by Hamas terrorists in Israel and by Israelis in the Gaza Strip.**

Khan has said his team is actively investigating any crimes allegedly committed in Gaza and that those who are in breach of the law will be held accountable.

On Oct. 7, Hamas led an attack on Israeli military bases and communities in which 1,200 people were killed and 253 were taken as hostages.

Israel has since launched a ground, air and sea offensive that has killed more than 34,000 Palestinians, according to Hamas. The assault, now in its seventh month, has displaced most of the blockaded Palestinian territory's 2.3 million people and created a humanitarian crisis.

**With 124 permanent members, the ICC can prosecute individuals for war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and aggression.**

**The case at the ICC is separate from the genocide case launched against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) also based in The Hague.**

The ICJ, also known as the World Court, is a United Nations court that deals with disputes between states while the ICC is a treaty-based criminal court focusing on individual criminal responsibility for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-798806>

**This is a difficult read but documents the horrid events of Oct 7 perpetrated by the vile Hamas group. rdb**

**Warning: Text includes graphic descriptions**

**Sheryl Sandberg's new film testifies to Hamas's brutal sexual violence on October 7**  
*In 'Screams Before Silence' documentary, survivors and witnesses share details of inconceivable cruelty by Palestinian terrorists in Israel and Gaza in hopes the world will listen*

By [Renee Ghert-Zand](#) Today, 7:00 pm



*Sheryl Sandberg visits the site of Hamas's October 7 Nova festival massacre, in 'Screams Before Silence.' (Kastina Productions)*

**Following a world premiere in New York on Thursday, "Screams Before Silence," former Meta chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg's new documentary on the systematic sexual violence perpetrated by Hamas against Israelis on October 7, is now available for open-access [online viewing](#).**

The **hour-long film**, created in cooperation with Israel's Kastina Productions, **provides first-hand accounts from survivors, freed hostages, first responders, and legal, medical, and forensic**

**experts.** Sandberg is present throughout the film either interviewing individuals in a studio or accompanying them to October 7-related sites.

**What emerges is not only an understanding of the mass scale and barbarism of Hamas's sexual attacks against women but also their deliberate, pre-meditated, and systematic nature.**

"When the body of the woman is violated, it symbolizes [the violation and humiliation] of the whole nation," Prof. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, former vice-president of the United Nations Commission on the Elimination of

Discrimination Against Women, says in the documentary.

The **film's testimonies detail a horrific truth that was largely brushed aside by a report released earlier this week by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, in which he declined to include Hamas among organizations suspected by the UN of committing acts of sexual violence during conflict.** That report noted there is evidence that sex crimes were committed during the Palestinian terror group's devastating October 7 attack on Israel, but did not specifically attribute responsibility to Hamas.

The **film also comes at a critical moment as mass anti-Israel demonstrations overtake a growing number of American university campuses, with many participants refuting the facts of October 7.** Some flat-out deny that Hamas breached the border with Gaza and ruthlessly tortured, murdered, and wounded thousands of Israelis that day.

"Screams Before Silence" is **clearly aimed at American and international audiences**, as nearly everything in it has already been shared or reported in one form or another in the Israeli media. In addition, most of the October 7 footage — mainly shot by Hamas terrorists' own GoPro cameras — has already appeared on television or social media.

However, **even for those who have seen the footage or heard survivor or witness testimonies, it will be hard to watch the documentary.** It begins with a trigger warning and mentions at the end that graphic images were not included out of respect for the victims and their families. Just listening to the vivid first-hand descriptions is traumatic enough.



*Sheryl Sandberg interviews a Nova festival survivor in 'Screams Before Silence.' (Kastina Productions)*

**Revisiting the site of the Nova festival, where 360 mainly young people were massacred**, four survivors tell Sandberg how they fled and hid. All four recount hearing women screaming and begging Hamas attackers to stop raping them.

At one point, I heard a couple. The guy was pleading, 'Leave her alone,' and crying. Then there was a shot and silence

and for so long unless... someone is doing something sexually to her. I was afraid I would be found and raped," says Tali Binner, who hid for seven hours in a trailer.

"At one point, I heard a couple. The guy was pleading, 'Leave her alone,' and crying. Then there was a shot and silence," Binner adds.

A shaken Raz Cohen recounts hiding 40 meters from where he could see and hear a group of men raping a woman.

"They just did what they wanted to her. Then they slaughtered her with a knife and continued to rape her. I wish I could have helped her. I wish I had a weapon with me so I could have attacked the terrorists and tried to save her," Cohen says.

When Binner was finally able to emerge from her hiding place, she saw the bodies of women, many fully or partially unclothed, with their legs spread.

Elad Avraham, who worked security at Nova, saw corpses everywhere, including a woman who had been bound and bent over a car's bumper with her legs apart. He also saw bodies with parts cut off.

"There was definitely a pattern of breasts being cut off," Halperin-Kaddari notes.

**ZAKA personnel at the forensic center in the Shura military base near Ramle, where hundreds of dead bodies arrived following the start of the war with Gaza on October 7. October 13, 2023. (Nati Shohat/Flash90)**

The mutilation extended to women's vaginas, as well. Rami Davidian, a local farmer, made many trips to and from the Nova site to locate and extricate survivors. In the film, he





stands in a wooded area with Sandberg and breaks down as he recounts coming across more than 30 dead, stripped, young women bound to trees. Legs apart, some of them had metal rods and wooden boards rammed up their vaginas.

Sandberg interviews experienced ZAKA rescue and body retrieval organization volunteers Haim Otzagin and Simcha Greiniman. Both say they had never previously encountered the kind of atrocities they witnessed on October 7.

“Bodies were cut to pieces. You couldn’t identify if a person was a man or a woman. Everything was ripped apart. And many bodies were naked. I had dealt with hundreds of bodies [of people violently killed] before and none had been naked,” Greiniman says.

Sandberg is visibly shaken as the ZAKA volunteers show her photos they took to document what they saw, including vaginas ripped open by stab wounds and gunshots.

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“We found one woman in her home under a mattress. She was naked, and nails and other things were hammered into her female area,” Greiniman says.

“[An attacker] can’t get to that area unless it’s deliberately targeted,” Otzagin adds.

Shari Mendes, an IDF reservist who served at the October 7 morgue at the Shura military base, testifies that she and her colleagues witnessed the results of deliberate genital mutilation and sexual violence as a systemic weapon of war.

“Women were shot in the head so many times that it seemed like there was an intention, an objective, to obliterate their faces. Most often, families couldn’t be shown the faces of their daughters. And we began to see that some of it was sexual in nature — directly targeted sexual violence,” Mendes says. “It did seem systematic — to use sexual violence as a weapon of war.”

“Screams Before Silence” also weaves the experiences of the hostages in Gaza into the narrative, highlighting that the sexual violence did not end once they were on the other side of the border.

The film was shot in February when the hostages had been held for around 100 days. It is now more than 200 days since October 7 and there are still 133 Israelis in captivity, not all of them alive.

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Amit Soussana, who was freed after 55 days, was the first to speak publicly about being sexually abused. She agreed to be interviewed for the film and a New York Times article about how her captor forced her at gunpoint to perform a sexual act on him.

“I felt guilty and disgusted with myself even though I had no choice,” Soussana tells Sandberg.

Ultimately, Soussana decided to go public with her experience so the world would know the truth about Hamas’s brutality and take action to save the hostages still in Gaza, especially women vulnerable to sexual violence.

Teenager Agam Goldstein-Almog was kidnapped to Gaza with her mother and two younger brothers after her father and older sister were murdered by terrorists in the family’s Kfar Aza home on October 7. Released in late November, she reported having been groped by captors and being constantly afraid she would be raped.

“Half of the girls and young women I met in captivity told me they experienced sexual or physical abuse or both. They are still living there with their rapists,” she says in the film.

Prof. Itai Pessach, who treated released hostages at Sheba Medical Center, says he fears the “unthinkable possibilities of pregnancies” among some of the [raped] Israeli women still held in Gaza.

According to Israel Police Chief Superintendent Mirit Ben Mayor, over 200,000 pieces of visual evidence and 2,000 testimonies from October 7, including substantial evidence of sexual violence, have been collected.

Some of those testimonies are from captured Hamas terrorists themselves, as recorded on videos during interrogations by Israeli security services.

This film is one way in which Sandberg, who declined to be interviewed for this article, is attempting to bring attention to these crimes against humanity. She has also written op-ed articles and spoken at the UN and with the leaders of several nations.

At the end of the film, Sandberg moves over into the interviewee’s chair, from which she tells director Anat Stalinsky why spreading the evidence of Hamas’s sexual violence is important to her.

**With most of Hamas’s victims silenced by murder, Sandberg says she hopes those who watch the film will listen to the testimonies and share them.**

**“Anyone who watches this film can bear witness,” she says.** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/sheryl-sandbergs-new-film-testifies-to-hamass-brutal-sexual-violence-on-october-7/>

**These accounts of the events on Oct 7 should infuriate any civilized person. They should also further demonstrate the barbaric stupidity and evil that is transpiring at our universities today. For the US and other groups to impede and attempt to block Israel’s annihilation of Hamas puts them in the same category as the terrorists, to our countries shame. rdb**

## **Soros funding US pro-Palestinian protests – media**

*A network of nonprofits has reportedly paid student groups organizing tent cities in colleges, according to the New York Post*

26 Apr, 2024 16:31



*Activists and students protest at George Washington University on April 26, 2024 in Washington, DC. © Anna Moneymaker / Getty Images*

**Several student groups that have organized protest “camps” at major US universities have received money from activist billionaire George Soros, the New York Post reported on Friday.**

**Protests that began earlier this month at Columbia University in New York City have since spread to 40 universities and colleges in the US and Canada,** including

Harvard, Yale and UC Berkeley. The Columbia protest was organized by Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) and Within Our Lifetime.

**All three have received funding from Soros’s Open Society Foundations through a network of nonprofits, the Post claimed, citing its own research. Other major donors to the student groups were identified as the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and former Wall Street banker Felice Gelman.**

**None of the groups responded to the Post’s requests for comment.**

**The outlet also named three “fellows” of the Soros-funded US Campaign for Palestinian Rights (USCPR), paid several thousand dollars to organize campaigns on campus.** Two of them are former interns for congressional Democrats.

**Activists have demanded that universities “divest” from companies such as Amazon, Google and Microsoft, as well as Lockheed Martin, that have contracts with the Israeli government.** They also want the US government to stop giving any more money to Israel, citing its “genocide” of the Palestinians in Gaza.

**Leader of the pro-Israel group Anti-Defamation League, Jonathan Greenblatt, blamed the protests on “campus proxies” of Iran in an interview with MSNBC this week.**

**Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has claimed that “anti-Semitic mobs have taken over leading universities” in the US and were calling for “the annihilation of Israel.”** He compared the protesters to German Nazis in the 1930s and said their actions had to be “condemned and condemned unequivocally.”

Israel sent troops into Gaza after a series of deadly raids by Hamas on October 7 last year, killing an estimated 1,200 Israelis. Netanyahu has vowed to completely destroy the Gaza-based Palestinian group. So far, over 34,000 Palestinians have been killed in the Israeli military operation and another 80,000 wounded. Much of Gaza’s infrastructure has been destroyed as well. <https://www.rt.com/news/596640-student-protests-palestine-soros/>

## **WATCH police fire taser at pro-Palestinian protester at US college**



*Officers used tear gas to disperse activists at Emory University campus amid a nationwide crackdown*

26 Apr, 2024 14:08

*Police detain a demonstrator during a pro-Palestinian protest at Emory University on April 25, 2024. © Elijah Nouvelage / AFP*

**Police officers in the US state of Georgia used tear gas and tasers to disperse a pro-Palestinian student encampment on Thursday, as law enforcement targeted activists at university campuses nationwide.**

The clashes took place at Emory University in Atlanta, where protesters – **including students from several nearby universities – had set up tents.** They were rallying against what they termed “*the genocide of Palestinians*” by Israel, and against Cop City, a local police and fire department training center currently under construction. **[This blatantly demonstrates that this is a paid agenda by the “woke” money folks trying to cause the demise of any republic or democracy so WEF can take over. – rdb]**

“We are **demanding total institutional divestment from Israeli apartheid and Cop City at all Atlanta colleges and universities,**” an organizer said. “We are occupying Emory, not because it is the only institution that is complicit in genocide and police militarization, but because its ties are some of the strongest.”

The **university said in a statement that several dozen people had “trespassed” on its campus, and warned that it would “not tolerate vandalism or other criminal activity.”** Members of the **Emory Police Department, Atlanta Police, and Georgia State Patrol were called to the scene, according to local media.**

“Atlanta community members were indiscriminately attacked today with pepper bullets, tear gas, and tasers for the simple act of camping out on a school lawn,” the organizers said.

Extremely disturbing footage. Atlanta cops tasing a restrained student protester at Emory university minutes ago. [pic.twitter.com/lq9p98za8y](https://pic.twitter.com/lq9p98za8y)

— Read Let This Radicalize You (@JoshuaPHill) [April 25, 2024](#)

**A video purportedly filmed at the location shows several officers holding down a handcuffed man, as one of them appears to fire a taser into his leg.**

The **APD confirmed using “chemical irritants,” but stressed that its officers did not “deploy rubber bullets,” contrary to some reports circulating online.**

While the university initially claimed that the activists were “*not members of our community,*” it later acknowledged **that out of 28 people arrested in the raid, 20 were from Emory.**

**Pro-Palestinian activists faced crackdowns across the US this week.** The wave of campus demonstrations was triggered last week by a protest at Columbia University in New York, and then spread to some 40 universities and colleges in the US and Canada, according to NBC News. On Thursday, police reportedly targeted encampments at Indiana University Bloomington and Ohio State University. Israeli Prime Minister

**Benjamin Netanyahu has welcomed the US police crackdown, branding the protesters “anti-Semitic mobs” and comparing them to Nazi sympathizers in the 1930s.**

Jonathan Greenblatt, leader of the US pro-Israel group Anti-Defamation League, claimed in an interview with MSNBC this week that the wave of protests was organized by “*campus proxies*” of Iran.

Israel attacked Gaza in October last year in retaliation for a deadly incursion by the Palestinian group Hamas, in which 1,200 Israelis were reportedly killed. The death toll in the enclave has since surpassed 35,000, according to Palestinian officials. <https://www.rt.com/news/596631-us-university-protest-crackdown-palestine/>

## **Russian forces strike train carrying Western weapons – MOD**

**The attack took place in Russia’s Donetsk People’s Republic, according to the Defense Ministry**

26 Apr, 2024 12:04



**FILE PHOTO: Russian servicemen of the South group of forces fire a BM-21 Grad multiple rocket launcher towards Ukrainian positions amid Russia's military operation in Ukraine, Russia. © Sputnik / Mikhail Voskresenskiy**

**Russian forces have struck a freight train carrying military equipment supplied to Ukrainian forces by Kiev's Western backers, the Defense Ministry in Moscow has said.**

**The combined attack involved aircraft, missiles and artillery, the ministry said in a statement on Friday.**

“A train with Western weapons and military equipment was hit in the area of the settlement of Udachnoye in [Russia’s] Donetsk People’s Republic,” it added..

Udachnoye, translated as 'lucky' in English, is located in the western part of the republic.

Personnel and equipment from the 67th Ukrainian mechanized brigade were also struck at a railway loading station in the area of Balakleya in Ukraine's Kharkov Region, the ministry said.

Over the past 24 hours, Russian forces have also destroyed five US-made M777 howitzers, two American M102 105mm lightweight towed howitzers, a US-designed AN/TPQ-50 counter-fire radar, a British FH-70 howitzer, and other hardware, according to the statement.

The flow of Western aid to Ukraine decreased drastically in recent months as Republicans in the US Congress resisted attempts by President Joe Biden to push through another \$61 billion in military assistance for Kiev. The standoff, which had dragged on since the autumn, was resolved earlier this week when lawmakers passed the legislation and Biden signed off on it.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said on Wednesday that the delays in aid from the US and the EU had led to "consequences" on the battlefield. Ukrainian forces have been "outgunned, allowing Russia to push forward on the front line," he said. Stoltenberg argued, however, that "it is not too late for Ukraine to prevail because more support is on the way."

**Russia has repeatedly warned that foreign weapons deliveries to Kiev will not prevent Moscow from achieving its military goals, but will merely prolong the fighting and could increase the risk of a direct confrontation between Russia and NATO.** According to officials in Moscow, the provision of arms, intelligence-sharing, and training of Ukrainian troops means that Western nations have already become de facto parties to the conflict. <https://www.rt.com/russia/596624-train-military-weapons-ukraine/>

## US created Ukraine conflict – Shoigu

*Washington spreads global chaos for its own benefit, the Russian defense minister has claimed*

26 Apr, 2024 11:42



*Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu attends a ministerial meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization on April 26, 2024.*

**The US is behind the Ukraine conflict and is deliberately trying to prolong the fighting, Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu said on Friday. He was speaking during a meeting with his counterparts from the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), a nine-strong political, economic and defense organization.**

Shoigu identified Washington as a major source of global instability, citing its record of military interventions in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and Syria. The US also uses financial and diplomatic tools to damage its adversaries and fuel chaos in different parts of the world, he claimed.

"The US had first created, and now is deliberately prolonging the Ukraine conflict," the minister stated. "As it signals purported intention to de-escalate, the West keeps pumping Kiev with weapons."

Ukraine cannot properly manage the donations, however, which increases the risk that the funds could go to terrorist groups, Shoigu warned. He also pointed to direct NATO involvement in the ongoing Ukraine conflict.

"They provide real-time intelligence, train Ukrainian troops, deploy Western military specialists and mercenaries on the battlefield," Shoigu noted.

The US and its allies claim that Russia launched an "unprovoked" attack on Ukraine in February 2022, and they have since sent tens of billions of dollars' worth of weapons to Kiev.

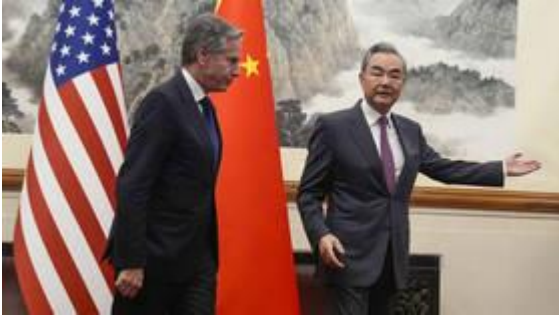
Shoigu accused the US of double standards regarding a nation's right to self-defense. He cited Washington's blocking of a UN Security Council resolution which would have condemned Israel for attacking an Iranian consulate in Damascus in early April. Tehran's eventual retaliatory attack was the result of US obstructionism, the Russian minister said, in reference to SCO's newest member.

Iran joined the SCO last year bringing the total membership of the group, which also includes India and China and accounts for some 20% of global GDP, to nine countries.

<https://www.rt.com/russia/596621-shoigu-us-ukraine-conflict/>

## Beijing warns Washington against crossing 'red lines'

## Negative factors in US-China relations are increasing, the country's foreign minister has told his American counterpart



China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken during their meeting in Beijing. © AFP / Mark Schiefelbein

The US is challenging China's core interests and suppressing the country's development, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi stated on Friday during talks with his US counterpart, Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

The "giant ship" of China-US ties had stabilized, "but negative factors in the relationship are still increasing and building," Wang said during a meeting at the Diaoyutai State

Guesthouse in Beijing.

Blinken arrived in Beijing on Thursday from Shanghai, where he urged the Chinese government to provide a level playing field for US firms in the country.

Bilateral ties face "all kinds of disruptions. China's legitimate development rights have been unreasonably suppressed and our core interests are facing challenges," Wang stressed.

Beijing and Washington could either engage in cooperation or confrontation, the foreign minister warned.

China is interested in "stable, healthy, and sustainable" relations and "win-win cooperation" with the US, he pointed out.

In order for it to continue, however, Washington should not interfere in Chinese internal affairs or cross Beijing's 'red lines' when it comes to the nation's sovereignty, security and development, he stressed.

The foreign minister was apparently referring to the tensions around Taiwan, which Beijing views as a Chinese province. Despite agreeing with the 'One China' policy on paper, the US maintains ties with the self-governing island and supplies Taipei with weapons.

Blinken told Wang that "there's no substitute in our judgment for face-to-face diplomacy" between the two countries. The administration of US President Joe Biden wants to ensure that "we're as clear as possible about the areas where we have differences, at the very least to avoid misunderstandings, to avoid miscalculations," he said.

Ahead of Blinken's trip, US State Department officials indicated that China's alleged support for Russia amid the conflict in Ukraine will top the agenda during his meetings with Chinese officials. Beijing hasn't supplied any weapons to Moscow, but US officials claim that Chinese-made circuitry, aircraft parts and machine tools have been helping Russia boost its military industrial capacity.

The Wall Street Journal reported earlier this week, citing informed sources, that the US authorities are preparing sanctions that would not only target Chinese companies, but would also cut off some of the country's banks from the global financial system. <https://www.rt.com/news/596606-wang-blinken-us-china/>

## The Real 'Civil War'

Daniel Greenfield



**A moronic liberal president opens up the borders to mass migration in order to change the nation's demographics and win an election, but instead touches off a civil war when the governor of a conservative state refuses federal orders to let any more refugees inside.**

It's not just the state of the Biden administration, but *The Second Civil War*, an HBO political satire from the era of the Clinton administration, that does what *Civil War*, a 2024 movie, won't.

*Civil War*, currently number one at the box office, has a lot in common with its 1997 predecessor, both are civil war movies whose posters feature a battered Statue of Liberty and show the country being torn apart through the eyes of the media, but the difference between them is that *The Second Civil War* brought up issues while *Civil War* carefully avoids them.

In 1997 it was still possible for a prestige production to discuss issues like immigration from both sides, to take shots not only at the conservatives, caricatured predictably as hypocritical xenophobic buffoons, but also at an equally mindless liberal elite using immigration for political gain, while being blind to the economic and social damage that it's inflicting on the country.

Such a position is inconceivable in 2024. That is why *Civil War* imagines California and Texas teaming up to topple an abusive president, but not the issues that would drive a civil war. The Western Forces militiamen are culturally coded as right-wing and xenophobic, and the reporters as liberals, but otherwise cannot touch on what would make Americans kill each other.

In *The Second Civil War's* black comedy, the administration is importing millions of migrants "the lumps at the bottom of the melting pot" with the specific purposes of winning swing states. Faced with pushback from The Nation of Islam, representing black Muslims, who are fighting the Reconquista Latinos of California, the president plans to import millions of Koreans.

What was satire in 1997 is just politics in 2024. The nation's foreign policy is being determined by a sizable Muslim minority in Dearborn, Michigan, which supports Iran, Hezbollah and Hamas. The implausible demographic transformation in 1997 is a reality now as [Muslims make up 10%](#) of the Georgia State Senate delegation. Everything is diverse and in a state of perpetual war.

The *Second Civil War's* Republicans don't actually oppose immigration, they just posture for political reasons but have no intention of actually closing the border. Neither side in this bleak farce believes in anything, but is just falling into a civil war to gain a political advantage. The only truly implausible thing in the movie is that it depicts media people fighting each other over political issues. The media of 2024 is far too much of a political monoculture to ever dissent.

And so is the entertainment industry.

Hollywood today operates under codes stricter than anything in the Hays era. Everything from the number of minorities to the depiction of other cultures, religions and countries (especially China) is closely governed and passes through multiple layers of censorship. Much like in China, the only acceptable position is advocacy and the lack of it is its own sort of protest.

If *Civil War*, like *The Second Civil War*, were to address immigration in the current cultural climate, it would be impossible for the movie to do anything except take a militant open borders position and to spend its entire running time denouncing and demonizing anything else. And the same would be true for any other political issue or position. The only safe way to tell a story about a civil war that isn't just going to be non-stop political scolding is to suppress the politics.

And that negative space may be more revealing than anything that actually is in the movie.

Liberal critics are not wrong when they point out that Alex Garland, *Civil War's* director, has done little more than transplant a conventional civil war narrative that could have just as easily been set in the former Yugoslavia to America, and that it offers little substance beyond the obligatory celebration of the heroism and horror of war journalism and the shock at a nation tearing itself apart, but what they miss is that they are the reason for the civil war.

And for the obligatory silence.

Nations tear themselves apart when they can no longer talk to each other or about the issues at issue. Cautionary warnings about a civil war do no good when the political atmosphere is so totalitarian and stifling that we can't even discuss why we might end up fighting one another.

Talk isn't a remedy for everything. The North and the South understood each other pretty well and there was plenty of vigorous discourse before the onset of hostilities. And sometimes differences are indeed irresolvable. Or

unlikely to be resolved. But there were actual efforts to find a compromise, like the redemption of the slaves, or a third option such as expanding America into Canada or Mexico, but there are no longer any efforts at a middle ground now.

The Left refuses to accept limits on anything. Borders must be fully open and every migrant must be allowed to come and live here. The most graphic kinds of pornography must be forced on children in public schools. Men must be allowed to pretend to be women. Terrorists must be allowed to kill without resistance. Money must be spent by the government without limit. DEI racial quotas must be imposed everywhere. All reliable energy sources must be banned.

There is no middle ground to any of this. Every institution in our cultural, intellectual and political life has been ideologically compromised and broadcasts the same absolutist position while insisting that any dissent is a “threat to democracy” that must be urgently suppressed.

How does that trajectory end in anything other than a civil war?

There are already two Americas separated by culture into mutually exclusive echo chambers. In the nineties, there were still debates, but by the late oughts, an iron curtain had fallen over the culture. Conservatives exist in the liberal echo chamber only as broadly stereotyped caricatures, racist idiots in red hats carrying guns, with no awareness of what they actually believe.

In that blind spot, *Civil War* can only conceive of a civil war, but not what might bring it about.

Garland suggests that the absence of clear motives provides a space in which people can draw their own conclusions, rather than being told what to think about the war. There’s something praiseworthy about a movie asking the audience to make up its own mind, but it’s also a calculated evasion. Ambiguity is the cultural dissent most present in totalitarian systems.

It’s one thing to let people make up their minds, another to be afraid of saying what you think.

Say what you will about *The Second Civil War*, a lopsided and fumbling political satire that crammed in everyone from James Earl Jones, a badly miscast Phil Hartman (coming off his Saturday Night Live portrayal of Bill Clinton) as a moronic president, and Dennis Leary, from the director of *Gremlins* and *Looney Tunes: Back in Action*, but it wasn’t afraid to offend anyone.

(Can you imagine any contemporary movie showing an LA mayor laying claim to the city in Spanish before being shot and killed by the Nation of Islam without everyone getting canceled?)

And that was as typical of 90s culture as the total political monoculture is of the current age.

*Civil War* is a movie about a civil war that is careful not to offend anyone. And in doing so it already offended the same leftists who complained that *Don’t Look Up* was only metaphorically, not literally, about global warming, and every show isn’t sufficiently committed to the cause.

Silence and ambiguity are evasive and ineffectual responses to such a totalitarian movement.

What’s driving us toward a civil war are not vague concepts like “divisiveness” and “polarization”, it’s that we have no hope of resolving conflicts that we can’t even talk about. One of the few relics of the vigorous debates of the 90s is Bill Maher’s *Politically Incorrect*. And even it has been ghettoized as “right wing” because its liberal host sometimes dissents from the Left.

That’s why the civil war we’re in is mostly silent. At least to the Left which is incapable of even seeing the other side and is convinced that with enough pressure and open borders, it will disappear. The numbers, whether Biden’s poll numbers or national polls, show otherwise.

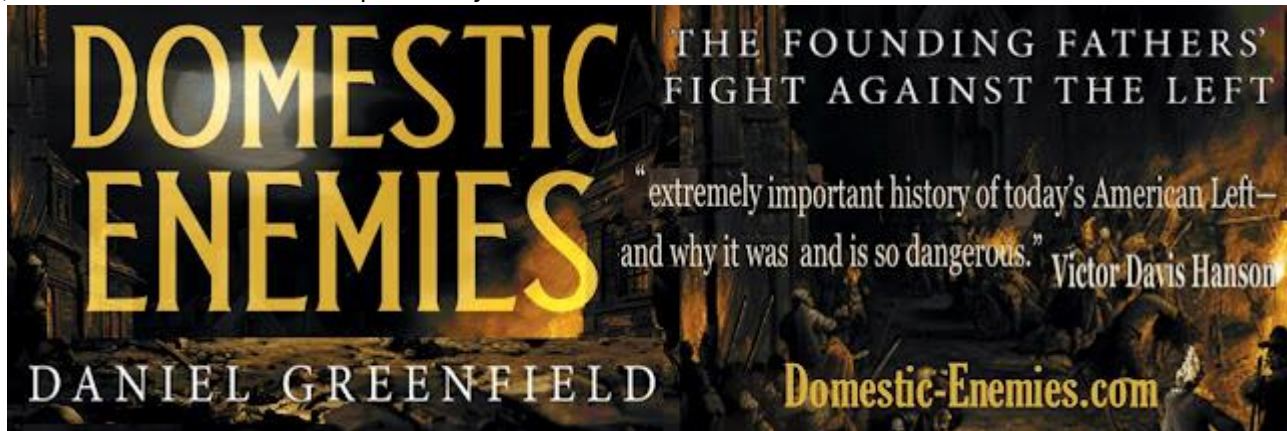
Faced with pushback, the Left embraces state repression and political violence, whether it’s the Trump trials or the rioting mobs in the street who alternate between terrorizing cities for BLM, abortion or Hamas, rigs elections and centralizes its authority all to “save democracy”.

But what is it saving democracy from except the other half of the country? Or democracy itself.

A generation later, *The Second Civil War*, can appear prescient about what is actually happening and more importantly about how we stopped being able to talk to each other. Its sendup of the follies of the media is in stark contrast to the humorless journalists of *Civil War* who are willing to die to report on what is going on for no other purpose than to bear witness.

*The Second Civil War* allowed us to laugh at each other which is about the best possible counter to a civil war. In the era of *Civil War*, satire like the rest of comedy is dead because it’s been replaced by partisan mockery aimed squarely at the other side. When there are no other perspectives, all that remains is a sanctimonious seriousness with no vision or imagination.

*Civil War's* journalist protagonists travel the country to Washington D.C. to report back that war is violent. This kind of reductive narrative is what happens when we don't talk about what's actually going on and out of that silence, a civil war that will tear us apart really can come.



[Daniel Greenfield](#) is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's [Front Page Magazine](#).