Black: Looks Back and Looks Ahead for Israel



Edwin Black discussed "The History of Israel and International Law" with high school students at Scheck Hillel Community School in Miami. Courtesy)

By Marvin Glassman

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Edwin Black spoke at several schools and synagogues in South Florida

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P resident-elect Donald Trump and his administration would be the most supportive of Israel since President Harry Truman in 1948, according to Edwin Black, an investigative journalist with "New York Times" and other publications.

Black, who has won awards for multiple best selling books such as "IBM and the Holocaust" (2001), "Nazi Nexus: America's Corporate Connections to Hitler's Holocaust" (2009) and "The Farhud: The Arab-Nazi Alliance in the Holocaust" (2010), spoke in South Florida to various schools and synagogues in Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties during the second week of November.



Black's remarks regarding the Trump Administration support of Israel came during his presentation on the topic titled "Post Election Analysis: America and Israel, The Next 66 Days, The Next 66 Weeks" that he gave to audiences at Chabad Central in Boca Raton, Nova University in Davie and at a briefing for Jewish leaders in Boca Raton.

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In the presentation, Black also revealed that he expected President Obama to have moved in a new direction regarding the Middle East had Hillary Clinton been elected as president.

"Obama would have exercised one of three strategies in the UN Security Council. First, unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state within borders following the 1948 armistice lines. Second, abstain from vetoing a French resolution recognizing a Palestinian state. Third, impose a territorial agreement within a two year deadline," said Black.

"Now that Trump has become president-elect, his Mideast adviser sent a private message to the White House warning against any of Obama's actions in view of the overwhelming popular and congressional sentiment against his strategies."

Black detailed his perceptions regarding the Trump administration support for Israel over the next 66 weeks in various Middle East issues, such as Israeli-Palestinian two state negotiations, re-mobilization against the Iranian nuclear and terrorism threat and continued financial support for Israel's missile defense.

Black's multiple presentations in South Florida, sponsored by the Zionist Organization of America and other organizations, also included discussions of his book "Financing the Flames" and "The Farhud" at congregations in Palm Beach.

He also discussed "The History of Israel and International Law" with high school students at Scheck Hillel Community School in Miami.

"It is an honor to have Edwin Black, a distinguished speaker, share his knowledge with our students as they learn about the history of Israel from his research," said Yehudis Benhamou, a social studies high school teacher whose 55 students attended Black's discussion.

Black shared with the students and at his presentation of "The Farhud" that Arab nations joined forces with the Nazis in 1941 in an attempt to exterminate the Jews of Baghdad with 850,000 Jews being expelled from Arab lands into Israel.

Black is the son of Polish Jews who were Holocaust survivors and was raised in Chicago.

To learn more about Black, go to www.edwinblack.com

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