

# 9 LOUCESTER COUNTY TIMES

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## Terrorists hate West, and not just Israel

To the Editor:

The following is based on comments by former prime minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, before the U.S. House of Representatives Reform Committee published in the American Legion Magazine, November 2001, and paraphrased by the author of this letter:

Some of our citizens feel that the motive the terrorists have against our country is our support for Israel, the Mideast's only democracy and symbol of western progress and freedom. Muslim extremists feel Israel must be wiped off the face of the earth. Many do not hate the West because of Israel, they hate Israel because of the West.

But, in meeting their motives, (Islamic extremists) require not just destroying the West, they require destroying its main engine, the United States. Their rationale as if the United States cannot be destroyed just now, it can be first humiliated and then ferociously attacked again and again until it is brought to its knees.

In ancient history there is a story that describes a commander approaching his king and stating, "That the enemy is at our gates." The King replies, "I am more concerned with the enemy within our gates." There are enemies amongst us right now.

Some of you may find it hard to believe that Islamic militants truly cling to the mad fantasy of destroying America. Make no mistakes, they do. Today, the terrorists have the will to destroy us, but they do not have the power. We have the power to crush them. We must also show that we have the will to do that. Once any part of the terrorist network acquires nuclear weapons, this equation will fundamentally change.

No cause, no grievance, no apologies can ever justify terrorism. Terrorism against Americans, Israelis, Spaniards, Britons, Russians or those of any nation is all part of the same evil and must be treated with our form of destruction:

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