



Executive Council of Australian Jewry

In an interview on Queensland ABC radio (26/08/05), Halim Rane noted he would be “shocked” if “radicals or extremists” could be found in the Muslim community. If he could make such an assertion after September 11 and the London and Bali bombings (to name but a few prominent cases), it is hardly surprising his article “Israeli 'high ground'” (29/06) was nonsense.

It would take a thesis to examine all of Rane’s omissions and half-truths, but I’ll content myself with one example. Rane says UN Security Council Resolution 242 requires Israel’s withdrawal from occupied Palestinian territories. However Rane conveniently omits the fact 242 is a package deal, namely: “Termination of all claims or states of belligerency and respect for and acknowledgement of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every State in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force”. Have the State of Israel’s neighbours given her even a moment’s peace?

Rane is apparently a student in Conflict Resolution. His teachers should advise him that the truth is always the best place to start.

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