



Executive Council of Australian Jewry

Israel's first priority is its own citizens

July 21, 2006

CERTAIN of your correspondents (Letters, 20/7) have expressed concern that Israel has not discontinued its response to Hezbollah's terrorism to facilitate the departure of Australian nationals from Lebanon.

Israel does not wish to harm innocent people. However, its first priority, as is every country's, is its own citizens. If Australia was engaged in a life-and-death struggle – and make no mistake, Hezbollah is totally committed to Israel's extinction – I suggest all Australians would find it unacceptable were our government to lay down its arms before the matter was resolved.

And as an aside, why aren't your correspondents also worried about visitors to Israel who equally find themselves in a war zone?

Geoffrey Zygiar

Executive Director

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