

Peace in the Middle East looking doubtful

Some University professors give their views on the situation in the Middle East

By Andrew Adams
Oregon Daily Emerald

University experts were quick to describe their shock at the recent escalation of violence between Israelis and Palestinians and the suspected terrorist attack on a U.S. warship off the coast of Yemen.

"I really pray this doesn't escalate anymore," said Anita Weiss, an international studies professor who has researched Muslim societies.

Weiss also said she was concerned about the timing of the air and tank attacks by Israel in response to the deaths of three soldiers at the hands of a Palestinian mob. These actions arise only a month from the Islamic holy period of Ramadan.

"Between now and then, [Islamic

states] are going to say if we're going to do anything we have to do it now," she said.

She said the holy time is usually spent in fasting and prayer, but if the Islamic nations of the region become incensed, it could also be a time of war.

"There's nothing to preclude fighting during [Ramadan] if you're fighting for a worthy cause," she said, "especially for the preservation of the community."

Weiss said she had heard from several Islamic groups in the United States denouncing the apparent terrorist attack on the USS Cole. She explained they believe it will only aggravate the violence in the Middle East and could spark retaliatory violence on Islamic-Americans.

David Frank, the associate dean of the Honors College who teaches a class studying the rhetoric of

Middle Eastern issues, said the situation was "very bad right now and it could get quite worse."

He said the violence just demonstrates that the tentative peace accord reached in 1993 was based purely on pragmatic reasons and

I just lament and weep for the failure of the first generation of peacemakers.

David Frank
associate dean,
Honors College

did not address the deep cultural and economic divide between Israelis and Palestinians. He said the two sides only entered into the agreement because they thought it was to their advantage to simply stop fighting. True seeds of peace were never planted, he said, and

now Israelis and Palestinians are reaping a harvest of violence.

"I just lament and weep for the failure of the first generation of peacemakers," he said.

If the situation gets worse than it is now, Frank said a major war involving Israel and its Islamic neighbors, similar to those in 1967 and 1973, could break out.

This would be the worst-case scenario, he said, and is something he does not envision happening because Israel still holds the military advantage in the region. He added that the United States should not tip this balance by bringing in its own military prowess in response to the suspected terrorist attack on the USS Cole.

"History has demonstrated that retaliation doesn't go to the core of the problem, but only perpetuates a cycle of violence," Frank said. "It's so bad now, we need to wait it

out and see what happens."

Geography professor Shaul Cohen lived and worked in Israel for 11 years and witnessed the anger and frustration firsthand. To see it explode like it has now greatly upset him, he said.

"I feel tremendous empathy for both sides and I feel the pain on both sides," he said. "My experience there has taught me just how acute that pain can be."

Cohen said he is currently trying to develop a system to enable Israelis and Palestinians to physically share the disputed areas. He said the plan would be similar to how diverse groups share water rights in desert regions. However, this would require a new atmosphere for peace, which Cohen said may be even more difficult to attain now.

"I think it's quite possible that things are going to get worse," he said.

Sweatshops

continued from page 1A

tions," she said. "The way activists were treating the issue on campus was ridiculous; they act like it's a much bigger deal than it really is. Many people from my country don't hate sweatshops ... and they don't feel exploited."

Tolani added that, despite the conditions, many workers aren't anxious to make changes in their workplaces.

"I can guarantee that if somebody goes to those factories and

says 'Don't work here, we'll find you something better,' workers will say 'We don't care, we want to work here,'" said Tolani. "Sweatshops give these people the security that they won't die of hunger. They don't want to leave."

Tolani, Serrano and Khan said harsh conditions in some factories don't represent sweatshops as a whole, and generalizations shouldn't be made.

"My mom works with a lot of women who work in sweatshops," said Serrano, a sophomore business major from El Salvador. "Some of them like their jobs, but

Out of all those people who protested in front of Johnson Hall, how many have been to a third-world country?

Rakesh Tolani
junior, business

then others think the treatment is too rigid. Working in a sweatshop isn't the best job, but it's not the worst either ... You can't say all sweatshops are good, but you can't

say they're all bad."

Serrano said that although the WRC may improve some working conditions, its efforts could also have a negative impact.

"WRC intentions are good," she said. "But it could have a double effect. For example, the WRC is thinking about closing down some sweatshops in El Salvador, and that would bring many economic problems and make the country's poverty even worse."

Tolani, Serrano and Khan advocate some of the activists' causes, but they said some have made the

mistake of applying high American standards to third-world countries without actually going there, and this makes sweatshops appear worse than they are. They said activists should have real-life exposure to third-world countries before fighting for the people living in them.

"Out of all those people who protested in front of Johnson Hall, how many have been to a third-world country?" said Tolani. "They should go to these countries to see people's situations firsthand; then if they still want to fight for it, I'm behind them all the way."

Virtual Office Systems Inc.

In Partnership with

The University of Oregon Bookstore

3131 West 11th Ph. 343-8633 Open Mon-Sat 10-6

**AMD K7 Athlon
750® Thunderbird
\$1139.99**

- Microstar MS 6330 Board
 - 16 MB TnT 2 AGP Video
 - 20 GB ATA 66 Drive
 - 64 MB 100 MHz SDRAM
 - 17" .27 SVGA Monitor
- With Athlon 800, \$1159.99
With Athlon 850, \$1249.99
Add 100 MB Zip Drive \$90



**VOS: Custom
Built to a
Higher
Standard.**

**AMD Duron 600®
"Power Player"
\$749.99**

- Microstar MS 6330 Board
 - 8 MB TnT 2 AGP
 - 15 Gig ATA 66 Drive
 - 64 MB 100 MHz SDRAM
 - Monitor Additional
- AMD Duron 650, \$879.99
AMD Duron 700, \$879.99
Add 100 MB Zip Drive, \$90

All systems include ATX case, Windows 98 Se or Me, 52X CD, 56K v.90 modem, mouse, keyboard, floppy, sound, speakers, 1 Year parts/ 2 Years labor

VOS Inc. Systems are also available at the UO Bookstore. Parts available only at VOS Inc.

Prices good through 10/27/00. AMD, K6, K7, Duron, AMD logo and 3DNow! are trademarks of AMD, Inc. Specs subject to change. Go Ducks!

Research

continued from page 1B

research included freezing the worms and examining their fitness rates, does not like the fact that today's medical technology can alter nature. The problem, she said, is that people with affected genes who would not normally be able to reproduce are having children and passing down harmful genetic material.

Because of these medical concerns, another goal of Lynch's team is to examine how different populations are affected when natural selection is relaxed. Further study would look at whether the same rate of mutation would occur in other species. This research could take several years, but Estes thinks the time is worth the effort.

"It's exciting to be doing something that will have relevance to conservation biology, and to be learning firsthand how evolution works," she said.

The research is ongoing. The next phase of examining genetic mutations is focused on the variation and mutation rates among animal species. Baer said he is excited to be participating in this new phase of research, which only began three weeks ago.

"We hope to find out whether mutation rates are specific to individual properties or if there's variation," Baer said.

The new experiments are conducted similarly to the previous experiments, but three different species of worms are being used. Results are expected from this research in two years.

FUN

stuff in the
ODE Classifieds
(Off The Mark,
your daily horoscope
and of course
the crossword.)

Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. Box 3159, Eugene OR 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. A member of the Associated Press, the Emerald operates independently of the University with offices in Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

NEWSROOM — (541) 346-5511

Editor in chief: Jack Clifford
Managing Editor: Jessica Blanchard
Community: Darren Freeman, editor.
Lindsay Buchele, Rebecca Newell, reporters.
Freelance: Serena Markstrom, editor.
Higher Education: Andrew Adams, editor.
Brooke Ross, Kristy Hessman, reporters.
In-depth: Ben Romano, reporter.
Perspectives: Michael Kleckner, editor. Jayna Bergerson, Bret Jacobson, Pat Payne, Eric Pfeiffer, columnists.
Pulse: Monica Hande, editor. Josh Ryneal, Ma-

son West, reporters.
Sports: Jeff Smith, editor. Scott Pesznecker, asst. editor. Peter Hockaday, Adam Jude, Robbie McCallum, reporters.
Student Activities: Jeremy Lang, editor. Emily Gust, Beata Mostafavi, Lisa Toth, reporters.
News Aide: Suzanne O'Kelley.
Copy: Sara Lieberth, Katie Mayer, copy chiefs. Jessica Davison, Lori Musicer, Tom Patterson, Jessica Richelderfer, Rebecca Wilson, copy editors.
Photo: Catharine Kendall, editor. Dan Brunell, Kevin Calame, Erin Swanson-Davies, photographers.

Design: Katie Miller, editor. Azle Malinao-Alvarez, Brooke Mossefin, Russ Weller, designers. Bryan Dixon, Giovanni Salimena, illustrators.
Online: Carol Rink, editor. Timur Insepov, webmaster.

ADVERTISING — (541) 346-3712

Becky Merchant, director. Erin O'Connell, Van Nguyen, advertising assistants. Doug Hentges, Nicole Hubbard, Trevor Kuhn, Jesse Long, Adam Rice, Hillary Schultz, Chad Verly, Lisa Wood, advertising sales representatives.

CLASSIFIEDS — (541) 346-4343

Trina Shanaman, manager. Kara Fallini, Tara Rothermel, Amy Richman, assistants.

BUSINESS — (541) 346-5512

Judy Riedl, general manager. Kathy Carbone, business supervisor. Sarah Goracke, receptionist. Greg Gallo, Masohiro Kojima, John Long, Gretchen Simmons, distribution.

PRODUCTION — (541) 346-4381

Michele Ross, manager. Tara Sloan, coordinator. Laura Chamberlain, Kara Fallini, Jillian Johnson, Melissa O'Connell, Laura Paz, Ross Ward, designers.