The Israeli Foreign Ministry chastised the Cable News Network (CNN) last weekend, after the network released a news brief which appeared to reverse the order of events in the latest clashes between Israel and the Hamas terror organization.

On Friday, July 20, 2018 sniper terrorists operating out of the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip opened fire on Israeli soldiers stationed on the border, killing 20-year-old Givati Brigade Staff Sergeant Aviv Levi. It is thought that the armor-piercing bullets and gun used in the attack came from Iran.

In response to the terror attack, Israeli fighter jets pounded Hamas positions inside the Gaza Strip, hitting roughly 60 different terror targets in the Hamas-ruled coastal enclave.

A day later, Gaza-based terrorists breached the Israeli border fence, prompting the IDF to shell a Hamas observation post in the Strip. But a news brief by CNN International on Saturday July 21, presented the events in reverse order, and made no mention that the Israeli airstrikes had been in direct response to the Hamas attack.

CNN International wrote, “Israel says one of its tanks targeted a Hamas military post in Gaza Saturday in retaliation for a border fence breach, one day after violence that left four Palestinians, including three Hamas militants, and an Israeli soldier dead.”

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Emmanuel Nahshon responded via Twitter to the CNN news brief, accusing the media outlet of manipulation. “No, CNN! You got it wrong and not for the first time – an Israeli soldier was killed by Hamas and the IDF retaliated, protecting its country and citizens against murderous terrorists. By misrepresenting the facts you manipulate [the news] against Israel! STOP YOUR MANIPULATION!”

CNN made no official response to the Israeli Foreign Ministry. So much of Israel’s fight against terrorism and anti-Israel bias is hindered due to outright misrepresentation of media facts concerning the Jewish state and her self-defensive measures.
Your individual voice counts a great deal in this battle. Let it be heard as you speak with friends about Israel and make use of blogs and social media sources to correct false and misleading statements against the Jewish state. Remember to pass this information on to others.

President Trump’s Mideast Peace team tells Hamas to stop terror in exchange for financial aid: Senior Advisor to USA President Donald Trump Jared Kushner, Top Negotiator Jason Greenblatt and US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman called on Hamas to stop terror, return Israeli prisoners to their families and, in exchange, receive aid to improve the situation in the Gaza Strip.

“International donors are conflicted: Should they try to help the people directly, at the certain risk of enriching terrorists, or withhold funding to Hamas and watch the people it is supposed to govern suffer” (recent column, The Washington Post). The piece explained the dilemma in providing humanitarian aid to the coastal enclave, clarifying that in the past any form of aid had been weaponized instead of being used for civilian purposes.

“Until governance changes or Hamas recognizes the state of Israel, abides by previous diplomatic agreements and renounces violence, there is no good option,” the article pronounced.

“Seventy years after the founding of Israel, it would be wise for Hamas to acknowledge that the existence of Israel is a permanent reality,” the piece added, arguing that the existence of Israel was an accepted fact in almost all of the Middle East.

On his Twitter account, clearly aimed at Gaza residents, Greenblatt wrote in Arabic: “If Gaza lives in peace with its neighbors, it can be a tourist destination like Sharm el-Sheikh and Tel Aviv. But with the leadership of Hamas, seawater that can provide suitable conditions for the establishment of resorts has become dangerous due to untreated sewage. There is no money to pay for wastewater treatment or to provide electricity because Hamas spends Palestinian money on terrorism instead” (JPost, JNN).

“Rescue me, O Lord, from evil men; protect me from the violent, who devise evil plans in their hearts and stir up war every day” (Psalm 140:1-2).

In Messiah,

Lonnie C. Mings

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