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## **UNITED NATIONS: A VICTIM OF INTIMIDATION?**



By Stephen L. Bakke  December 22, 2017

*Here's what provoked me:*

*The events in the United Nations this week tells me radical Muslim terrorism is influential in international decision-making, even while they are losing a lot on the battlefield. This proves terrorism is more insidious than most of us had hoped. The road to success is still there but it's getting longer and longer.*

*Here's my response:*

### **United Nations: A Victim of Intimidation?**

In 1995 Congress overwhelmingly legislated acknowledgment of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and directed the U.S. embassy be relocated there. Intervening presidents expressed intentions to do it, but progress wasn't made until Trump gave orders to proceed – delivering on a campaign promise.

Lots of grumbling follows anything Trump does, and certain countries would be expected to express official objection. But this reaction went over the top. The United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly, 128-9, to declare Trump's action "null and void." 35 nations abstained in "sorta'-support" of the U.S. and there were 21 cowardly supportive "no-shows."

Israel isn't fighting a war of public opinion, it's fighting a war for survival – let's remember that. And while terrorists are being defeated on battlefields, this international reaction demonstrates they've otherwise had some success. Terrorism's goal is to change behavior out of fear and intimidation. I submit this vote very much reflects the fear and intimidation present in so many countries.

U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley did herself proud when she proclaimed: "We will remember this day ..... and this vote will be remembered." Will that assurance be more convincing than the threatened and real violence that's been intimidating so many countries? Don't hold your breath!