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"The Right Partner": Tony Blair, touching on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, [said today](#), "The appointment of Abu Mazen gives us the right partner to take this forward." As I've mentioned [elsewhere](#), Abu Mazen authored a book called *The Other Side: The Secret Relationship Between Nazism and the Zionist Movement*, which claims that the Nazis really only killed fewer than one million people and that Jewish leaders exaggerated the number of deaths in the Holocaust for their own financial benefit. What's more, he says, "the Zionist movement was a partner in the slaughter of the Jews" so that they could create the state of Israel afterward.

On Wednesday, the office of the spokesman for the Israeli Defense Forces [removed from its website](#) a collection of quotations by Abu Mazen justifying violent attacks on Israeli civilians in the territories. The Israelis know he's a bad guy, but, as *The Jewish Week* [editorializes](#), "the Israelis feel that Abu Mazen is a man they can deal with in future peace talks" (Then again, so was Arafat at one time). It's a sad commentary that Abu Mazen ranks among the most moderate and reasonable Palestinian leaders, but at least it's a good sign that Arafat [doesn't trust him](#) with too much authority.

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Our Store: The pro-Saddam activists have all these snazzy T-shirts and buttons they wear with their catchy anti-war, pro-despotism slogans. But there's no such apparel for the majority of Americans who support the liberation of Iraq. So, as a public service, The American Scene is proud to offer "Free Iraq Now" shirts in our [new online store](#).

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Two for One: [The Times reports](#) that the elder Bush, in a speech at Tufts University, "said that the brief flowering of hope for Arab-Israeli relations a decade ago would never have happened if America had ignored the will of the United Nations." In other words, Arafat and the PLO would still be off in Tunis -- which sounds like a rather good argument for unilateralism to me. Now, we [talk about liberating Iraq](#) as a way also to help end the "Tunisian occupation" of the Arafat kakistocracy in the West Bank and Gaza -- a problem, according to Bush Sr., that resulted from leaving the Hussein regime in place in 1991. Says Bush 41: "The Madrid conference would never have happened if the international coalition that fought together in Desert Storm had exceeded the UN mandate and gone on its own into Baghdad after Saddam and his forces." In other words, by leaving one brutal dictatorship in place, we were able to create yet another one. I'm not sure how far the "Without Saddam we wouldn't have Arafat" argument really goes in making a case *against* the war. It certainly doesn't say much for [UN mandates](#).

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