

Breaking The Silence w/ Avner Gvanyahu Ep 58

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Welcome to fortress on a hill. I'm Henry I'm Danny. I'm Keagan where we left us. Veterans that into the reality of the US military's multiple wars abroad and illuminate. The damage military service does America American presidents out. Us history you have used American military and diplomatic power to force regime change democratically elected governments around the world. Most veterans come from families vested in Prior Service and American generals choose their own ensuring diversity of thought never interferes with American warmongering. How can we stand by and do nothing? While our military kill and destroy lives the world over while telling Americans that the death and destruction protect them from terrorists when nothing could be more. All fortress on a hill aims to change that avenue for you. Welcome to fortress on a hill. Thank you for being with us today. Yeah thank you for having me my pleasure. It's not often that we get to invite a fellow any war veteran from another country on the podcast. I think this is the first for us. So thank you for fulfilling that for us. Yeah looking forward for our conversation and Sort of You know seeing where We can learn from each other and learn from our wildman. Sounds good sounds good ever? Can you give us some background on your service in the Israeli Defense Forces Police? Yeah sure so. I'm haven't Israeli born and raised my My American accent is from my mom. Who grew up in upstate. New York She moved here Met My dad And we were basically raised in. The city called the the hormones which is in the center more or less Israel. I grew up in a religious family. Was We call and Israeli society the Religious National Community So this is An energy that's both religious but also served in the army And it was very clear to me that I'll join the army My Dad served as a paratrooper. My older brothers served as a combat soldier. I'm named after a soldier who was killed in the nineteen seventy three war I myself doing In November two thousand four In Israel there is a draft. So I was I was I basically didn't have a lot of Wiggle Room there. I had to joining but I did volunteer to the paratroopers So I started my service in the patrons and I Chose to not only serve in the paratroopers but also do a few more physical exams and I I which passed so I started my service In what could be described. This sort of the special ops unit of the parents superbra Gay Are you are you specifically was an anti pain unit And we spend a lot of time in our almost year of training Preparing ourselves to sort of use anti tank weaponry but We didn't fight tanks in any kind during my three years. What we actually did And this is what the idea. Israeli Defense Forces are actually doing With a big part of The army's might I was basically part of maintaining the military occupation in the West thing with the army call tumble bottle which translates into the limited confrontation which is basically what the army calls occupation was. I would call Israel's military dictatorship over Palestinian So we can go into sort of the history and the background if you'd like but I think Summarizing district quickly since nineteen sixty seven. Israel has been occupying With military might massive areas Which Israel has never next an international community he does not see as an integral part of Israel. And that's where the occupation Takes Place So the West Bank. Because we're I served and mostly around Nablus in Janine And towards the end of my serve this after I Went to Commander's course.

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I became a sergeant of a sniper team and a big part of what I did as a soldier generally and the soldier who who has you know Reading together with my officer this team. was a mission that we called. Draw those Which came to define big part of my military service and Basically the idea behind the strike widow is Taking a private Palestinian house and using that house as a military post Actually found myself Spending many hours many night barging into Palestinian home And using their window. They're living room the kitchen window And they're basically their houses a military post while the entire family was locked in a room And I think those moments those came to become pretty mundane routine moment where we're also. I would say a big part In my process and and wanting to speak out and talking about what's actually happening in occupied territories Thank you thank you for that background. I listened to a little bit of a couple interviews of yours and just describing that it's a it's a shocking to it's shocking to hear about. I mean I I think that for me for me those whole home invasions were very impactful but but I think what what is sometimes sort of law and in the distance of what's happening on the ground is You know we've been we Israel and when I say we I definitely referred to Israel because you know I Miss Rayleigh. I see myself as an Israeli patriot. what what my military is doing. And what's being done there being done at my name. Definitely with my tax money But what Israel and with with where maintaining an occupied territories is Really sort of this This constant reality that been going on with me. You know different Levels of extreme throughout the fifty fifty three years. But I think there's something which is More getting more and more visible. And that is that. We're moving away from the temporariness of occupation and I think the understanding that we're not in in sort of a war like reality where you have At least in theory an enemy here. We're talking about the reality where the whole system in place is the nature. We continue the control So you know home. Invasion is really a tip of the iceberg even arrests or Points you know many times. You'll see these visuals coming out of the territories of you know Palestinian standing in checkpoints or home invasion even. That's the most important element of what's happening on the ground. Is this idea of control which is in fact A reality the the The most basic Way of life for each and every Palestinians living living under our rule. It doesn't matter if you live in the small community near a settlement or if you live in the big Palestinian the bigger like grandma would be right back have wrong and so on you will be affected by this military control that will be translated not only the soldier standing in chestful but also to an entire system that regulates movements for Palestinian in house territories stories in the territories in specific area Access to their own agricultural land and so on and so forth forth and this is all being maintained by soldiers. Some of them are soldiers with guns helmets bargains homes. But some of them you know like like what I did but some of them are soldiers sitting behind desks who are basically You'll maintaining this This reality of Control. You know And this is Danny here.

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I probably Henry night. Bowl have probably not to the extent. You know because you know in scale America's wars about America's wars quarrel and occupations are about two decades old of patient of West Bank is what now fifty three years old. But you know in Iraq in particular I mean taking over homes aren't mentioned setting up what we call observation posts or you know. Sort of a hunter killed teams was was a big part of of what we did as well well and and so it just really resonates when you say it and to think that that that Israel has been doing that or the idea has been doing that for fifty three years sometimes a mile from the border. Right just over. The border from Israel is striking. But what I want to ask is is this. You know your organization which you know followed for a number of years and thank this just incredibly important no matter how hard they tried to silence. You're right so breaking the silence. Is this really great term. Because not only. Is there an attempt to silence anti war vets here in the United States but probably even more so in Israel to a certain extent But one of the things about occupation long-term occupations and I and I'm sure you agree. This is that the silence about it. Right the refusing to speak about it as a society as part of what maintains and so what. I'm interested in is. Of course we can talk on broader terms and it would prod question would take up the rest of the pod so we can talk about what happens to a society after fifty three years of military occupation of neighbor. But I'm interested in the military. You know sure you know you've been in the military in a more recent period you said you're a named after a soldier killed in nineteen seventy three. I believe Your family background. Most people in Israel do what in your opinion has been the backed on the idea the effect on the military institution and culture from fifty three years of sort of prolonged and normalized occupation. What does that done to the military establishment? Yeah you don't I think I think that That that's an excellent question And I think that there have been you know there. There's there's different ways. Different ways to sort of look at this is actually An interesting movie that would recommend called The gatekeepers Where when they were when it was out. Was you know all the former had Israel Israeli What we call Shock the basically there's rail equivalent to the FBI Going on record Into this documentary and talking about basically occupation. They don't they don't all agree but I think there's a very powerful voice there Talks about You know the the moral price Which is paid? I think you know brought forward by former heads of the secret service who are very involved in maintaining documentation. This was all. We'll also come out. You know In some interviews with former had of The idea chief of staff and their deputies but I think the one of the interesting things that comes out in you know from our working breaking the silence is really You know how how deep This This reality has affected the way the army a self operate you know? There's sort of a cliché in Israeli society sort of turned into cliché talking about Through the slogan patient corrupt And you know many people will say well there isn't even an occupation and one will others will will will say well it doesn't corrupt or ignore it but this sort of slogan is stunned house or the become a cliché but I think it's very important because it it doesn't say that patient is inherently corrupt You know theoretically if if military occupation when they've been short period of time theoretically maybe it could have ended right and then you know. There's nothing necessarily fundamentally wrong with that. Concept International Law also recognize that as a as a binding concept the problem is when military occupation becomes the norm. And then what you're faced with is with the reality where a military is not equipped to

deal with And I think there's so many different examples of this of how this This corruption which has been going on for for many years now.

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doesn't only disregard. Palestinian suffering doesn't only disregard and sort of Whitewash deaths of Palestinian and sort of giving very minimize sentences to soldiers. And and so on. But there's also another element which I think is very interesting and dangerous and unique at least in you know in recent years that Israel active patient. Which are there's rarely settlers right alongside millions of Palestinians living under our control? Also have today between three hundred fifty thousand to half a million and you know if we can't use Jerusalem which was the next or not but we're talking about thousands of Israeli citizens living in a militarized area So I would think I was in the best example. Is You know when you're standing inside the West thing inside the occupied territories with many Israelis were call Judean Samaria You're standing in an area. Where the law is the military rule the military occupier but but alongside with the vast majority of the people living there under the military occupation. You also have Israeli citizens. They're there to protect it right. You can sort of imagine then living there surrounded with this imaginary bubble. This bubble allows them these Israeli citizen to live in an area which is occupied and controlled by the military but basically maintain their rights as citizens and this creates Absurdities right. Where are you have to separate two parallel systems in one geographical area? And you don't have the potential for equality. I CAN ISRAEL PROPER. There are minority groups right. That are fighting for their rights and so on but they see a radically have the potential for equality right they. Can you know if they can fight for citizenship? And if they can be citizens they could fight for political reasons and patients on in the occupied territories. That's that's from the get go. That's not the case. So you have a system which is bill From the root of it to be unequal And this creates a system which which I think and this is probably I would say the most dramatic A fact of Fifty three years of notoriety station on the military is basically the military has Become sort of A body that in many many cases is there to Maintain a sense of security for the settlers which basically translate into the soldiers job is to allow the settlement project to expand And this and this means Again a system where you have all you know. Almost routinely reacted the of settler violence which soldiers on the ground. Don't have the power to stop because there are soldiers. They can't stop. They can stop the citizens that's only the job of Israeli policemen And this reality just as an example will cause more and more Palestinians lose their land right so the military the Israeli Defence Force basically Has become in that sense subordinate to what we sometimes referred to as the High Command Right. Where the settler movement has political power that allows this reality of corruption to Be Be entrenched you know. What a what. A great description. Because you dug into some real taboos that a I'm sure in Israeli society and frankly in a scary way even in American society. These are things we don't talk about rights you're not allowed to talk about the occupation Simply not allowed to talk about The settlers and settlements. But am I hearing this long? Am I hearing that? To an extent the position and the role of the idea at this point has become to protect and enable settlements that are at least under international law illegal.

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I mean I it seems like An. I don't know what your position is on that. But or or at the very least an obstacle to peace. So you've got the idea which is lauded in Israeli society. I think right to some extent somewhere Our military protecting and enabling An illegal venture is that some extent what I'm hearing. Yeah no I mean I would. I would say you know it's not it's not it's really even regardless of what I think to be true. It's you know. We'll take you know all sorts of Shows ABSURDITY OF IN MORE RIGHTS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW? You know Mini according to the Neva. Convention you know All settlements are illegal and back has been sort of Consensus in the vast majority of the international community was the position of the US. Till the last. You Know Jill current trump administration. Or at least you know You know in their terms unhelpful. And so on and so forth but Under Israeli law. There are at least between a hundred. And fifty hundred and thirty settlements. That are What what many referred to as outposts which are well basically unauthorized settlement under Israeli law. Right so these are these are. These are criminal enterprises In the eyes of the Israeli state. Let's put aside international community now. The Israeli military will protect these illegal unauthorized outposts and almost every settlement almost every settlement. That's respects itself. Has the legal out those now in many cases and we actually have on our website. The booklet that we call the hike. A man Has a little bit of an intro. And and a lot of testimony regarding this relationship between settlers and soldiers where one of the one of the reoccurring Testimony that we have. I gave a testimony about this as well. Is that when you come to guard the settlement or now you have guarding the settlement alongside with the soldiers Security guards who are I ideological settlers living there. And there they are. What's what's what's called special security officers special security coordinator and in many cases these settlers who Walk around with a gun. Who are basically in charge of an internal security for the settlement and are paid by the Ministry of Defence but are supposed to be subordinate to the military. They will be the ones giving the soldiers orders this is. This is a reoccurring thing well documented over and over again where you have in the best case scenario This lack of clarity in you know who's in charge but in many cases or the that's not the worst case scenario many cases. The reality is young soldiers. Right imagine yourself you know. You're starting your tour. You don't know a lot of what's happening on the ground. So is a young soldiers sometimes. Fill-in their training to be you know different settlement sometimes just for like ten days. This is the first time in the region could be the first time for their officers. Well they will then get orders from the local settlers. Um and I think the absurdity comes up in many many cases again well documented by US but by other anti-occupation human rights organizations on the ground. You know we give. We bring the perspective of You know not the victims but victimisers right. We're giving the testimonies of the soldier menu organizations to more of the classic human rights or bringing testimonies of Palestinians. Right so yes being in Bits Ellen and and many other amazing organization doing this work have put forward a massive body of information that true. That's the settler violence which is basically given the green light because you know internalized lack of law enforcement is pushing Palestinians off their own land. And what you basically see this process of Settler

violence combined with A military present together with draconian laws preventing Palestinians from farming their land or building on their land allow in a process that we were were very much in the expansion of the settlements sometimes illegally many times illegally on the expensive Palestinian land which basically minimizes the areas where Palestinians you're living you have sort of like a plus minus and the battery right sort of the settlements are expanding and the miners are the Palestinian community where Palestinians are being pushed shoved into more confined areas Closer to the big city so losing massive swath of land And I think that you know this what I described to you now is basic- basically been the case for the vast majority of the past Years with what we see now.

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More recently in the past five years Under the last government led by Netanyahu with a lot of power the settlement movement. We see bills or or temps of bills to be being passed in Israeli parliament. That's will affect legalize. Many of these illegal outposts right. You basically have this process fast Building was seen illegal by the state of Israel which is now retroactively Being legal so in in in other words no matter what section of the Israeli government is involved whether it's people that from the settlers to the soldiers to parliament to citizens back home. There are all systems are saying support occupation or an and legalize it if at all possible. Yeah Yeah I mean I think this is the and this is sort of going a little bit more political but I think you know very relevant to this topic But but you know. Think that for many many years You know the state of Israel has been around since nineteen four the I personally believe in Israel's right Jews nation And you know I I think that The the state of Israel is a is a reality I won't get into this but I just don't believe that our right to self determination should come in the back of another people's right to self-determination but Israel and the state and and there's a state recognized borders you know from the international community nineteen sixty seven with the with occupation. You basically We start seeing this process where Israel you know between the river and the sea. It's one st controlling all this territory And this This one st with controls all this territory is in effect maintaining two separate genes right a democracy or flog democracy in Israel proper right but but they're still at the Council for Democracy Right. I'm talking from you from within Israel proper and the center of Israel You know and another regime which is military controlled area military dictatorship. These two regimes have been living side by side for many years and this has been the case not only now but but for many many years to these two separate reunion what we see happening over the past decade and definitely in the past couple of years and you know trump here has helped amazingly to push this process forward They couldn't have done this without the support. Trump and the trump salmon deal you know the slap of the century and you know with everyone to call these different names for this clan basically a movement which has always been in the fringe of Israeli society has now gained much more power and much more political power. And we're basically moving from this rally of one stage with two regimes to a one steak with one region right so so Many would argue that elements in occupied territory itself Resemble Park Right Segregation Bantustans and so on and so forth And I think that's something to be dealt with And definitely an argument that should be dealt with and put on the table but the

process. It we're talking about If we're going to be moving forward with annexation of territories and this is what the trump plan is will allow this is what Israel current government. And we'll see what will be our next government but even house political opposition at least on the face of things has legitimized annexation. Were basically talking about erasing this distinction between the two separate regime and just going full-scale apart and this is a very very dramatic shift where we see this legitimacy for annexation almost across the political spectrum And this is why this last election the just ended very recently was very very important than was actually inconclusive but on the issue of annexation there is a majority or at least on the face of it the majority of legitimacy who an as an Israeli who believes in the importance of separating Israel.

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You know the legitimate Israel with defined borders right with I would maybe call Kosher. Israel and non-kosher Israel like a legitimate state dresses non-legitimate reality This process removing toward not only the legitimacy of the settlement but the legitimacy of permanent control over Palestinian in confined areas An annexation without giving Palestinians the right to vote And I think that this is really And I say this. You know with a lot of caution but this is basically You know moving into a regime that You know we thought that ended with the end of apartheid in South Africa And there was a rally against this this this plan there was a rally against in tel-aviv where you know you know. Thousands of Israelis went to the street protesting than we. We we we put together a sign With we walked around with this parade in this parade and In this in this March in the signs had don't make apartheid grace again And I think that basically the involvement of the US in the in the in the dreams of the far right right this this dangerous alliance between you know the Knicks Yanic right and Israel believing the greater state of Israel and the permanent control to the Evangelical base of trump Has Draw to a very very dangerous will the use of the word apartheid. I personally think it's appropriate but I understand that the caution and you know this is just one of those words that is anathema. And I'm sure that that's the case and Israel but you're you're describing a system that is almost tax book apartheid and one of the things that one of the things that struck me And I think you might find. This interesting. Very briefly is that I was on a brief speaking tour in La For my next book on on descent especially veteran descent and just important and so I was at a fundraiser fi publisher in Santa Monica backyard. Right so this if you may have been L. A. It's just rich. People Right. Rich white liberals rich white liberals and quotes and and they were mostly. Nice people and we're like minded on probably ninety percent of everything but one of the things that struck me was a conversation that I got sort of tracked into by a Jewish American with dual citizenship in Israel or who has lived in Israel. Son is in the army Served under Benny at one time Who IS The blue and white Bharti right former general candidate for prime minister and and I got a lecture and then some other Jewish Americans. There were lots of them right there. There are many who are like minded in that area and one of the things that struck me was that these folks who they hate trump so much right they lows trump. It almost defines their political identity in twenty twenty They're all about identity. Politics right there notionally in favor of the welfare state but I got a lecture and I almost couldn't fight back because I was exhausted by it

about Israel's security at how Iran is this great evil and it was great that we assassinated
possum salamone. I mean in fact this gentleman and they agree except for me are you that.
Iran is really behind the protests in Gaza completely ignoring the genuine grievances of the
People. And so this was striking. But what I wanted to ask you. Is You know in this. Latest
release series of elections the once somewhat power very powerful Labor Party in Israel the
traditional left right traditional Establishment left has become a marginal Barden And we have a
situation where the Jewish American liberals in the United States.

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They all loved Benny Ganz. And he's what I call a polite emperor and I'm interested to know
what you think about that Sir. But and he's also general which is similar to the United States
where we have more and more generals during the Baltics but why the failure of labor and is
gaunt's so that's so it's two questions you know why the failure of labor and your opinion or the
weakness of labor currently and is Benny Ganz truly superior option to Netanyahu Does he
represent real change? And what does he represent? And I know that's a complicated question
but I think most Americans don't know anything about this and and I have a feeling you've got
some interesting inside. Yeah so I mean You said you said a bunch of a bunch of stuff there
which I think I I wish I could Go back each and every point but but I think that you know
generally speaking. I agree that there is an issue of what some people sometimes called paths
by progressive except Palestine. Progressive Accept Palestinians And this is definitely true
When it comes to you know many liberals around the world and definitely true in this rally Israeli
society people are you know progressive on many issues. you know L. E. Two right and You
Know Church and state and Climate Change and so forth. But it comes to this issue. You see
something. Something Shifts I I would You know just just to sort of put the previous
conversation you know behind us and then move forward. I I WOULD BE I. I'm very very
cautious of you. Know when we talk about Israel moving into apartheid But but but this reality
where for so many years the call of a liberal Zionist of the of the Progressive Zionist camp in
Israel. Was You know there's we still have the potential to to end military control Becomes much
more challenging when stay up in the next and this is and this is you know sort of trying to talk
about gant's and when the difference you know I I would argue this you know Israel doesn't
have and never really had A real right and let's break especially when it comes to you know the
core issue of rock right and left is in many in many countries where it comes to sort of political
issues. You can find people who are hardcore capitalist in what lan Left leaning parties and you
can find people who are real socialists When it comes you know but you know are are seeing
right-wing party and so forth There is one thing that I would say should be defining Politics and
Israel and that is your approach to this Rayleigh Alston conflict and Israel architects. And that's
where Actually engand are closer than what we think And still I think again to better than the first
I'll explain why they're actually closer so I would say we have redefined political canton Israel
Three and a half the political campaign Israel the biggest The strongest voice in Israel has been
with. I would call control get right. This can't that that that Believes between the river and the
seat is only space for one country in that Israel And and you can find people supporting this idea

In Dances Party right which is sort of right of center in people in Likud within the party. Who still believe there should be this control. They don't necessarily want to annex even though this is a growing phenomenon in the House Party But also in people. Labor Party right for many many years the plan of Labor was basically Form of of Control. Maybe even permanent control This was once challenge and also like in the nineties to the right of this political.

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Can you have the largest growing political campaign Israel which is annexation basically a political campaign believed that we should have the territory China to maintain control to annex the territories basically? That's the part I. This camp has been growing. It's not the biggest yet made but maybe today it is like maybe today at this point where Dan and definitely Antonio supporting Annexation this camp has become probably the one of the biggest or not the biggest either too strong political camps. I You Have Lieberman. Who's the camp on his own? We won't get into that the half and half and the less is what I would call. The quality counts right. Today is the smallest local campaign Israel within Labor. There was always a shift Fight there was always people that were part of the control camp for people that are they quality camp once in our history of the state in the mid nineties. The equality can manage to poll the control that was though slow process which was very far than many things to say about that. It was for the first time that this idea of equality camp of at least theoretically ending military control was literally on the table When we talk about Netanyahu's again with we're actually seeing is the center right. Fighting with the far and the process it happened to the centre-left Labour party was that they were constantly watering down their message and sort of Toning down where they are in order to they thought would give him more votes. Is they basically more than they're basically they're voters more than two? Benny Gun right into the into blue and white. It's the same electorate. Go back to two thousand fifteen and go back to twenty twenty. The same amount of people voted to the center. Right Center left block. I numbers haven't changed. It's all in the same numbers but what happened the process that we've been seeing with the Labor Party. They think is an amazing process. It's been happening in many places around the world sort of the center last feeling we have to go more to the center. They basically become sort of right of censoring the left of center and this Right of center doesn't manage to win go action and then what you actually have is a process that instead of having Centre-left OPPOSITION VERSUS A right-wing government. You have center right off position that the pros is a right-wing government right through the whole conversation. The whole conversation is shifted to the right and you see this with these reoccurring elections. What this does does ideological centrum demolished it. So why do I still think it's better? That can't be because in the end of the day when you think of these two these two politicians and many issues. That may be see. I. I don't think anything will dramatically change an occupation fund under dance but I do think that there are two things that are important. One is Netanyahu vis a vis SPA. This moment actually need to destroy rule of line. Israel's keeping south out of prison that's something against won't do but another thing which is important is in order to allow any sort of change in order to allow any sort of movement within the different parties. You can yell has to because he is he. He's he's this

heat's everyone is orbiting around him And this is this. This has created a very very problematic to say the least Political system pull in together the allegations or they indictments again Yano. You're basically you basically understand why it's so important for him to move in order for there to be some sort of Revival in new energy. Hopefully I can hope for the last in the central the guys that I love doing. The podcast being able to share our experiences in the military with allies and supporters means the world to us. We can't do all the work we need you to share an episode of ours with somebody.

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Anyone whom you think might be affected by it. Maybe a young person looking to join the military or parents advocating for one a conscientious citizens care about the violence the US wages in their name advocates for women and people of Color who understand the harsh environment. The military can create for minorities and also inflicts on Minorities Across the Globe in anyone else. You think it might affect. Please take a minute and share this with. Our podcast is supported in a few different ways. I Patriot where we're blessed to have an array of wonderful supporters. Helping the guys and I pay for some of the PODCASTS EXPENSES. Those who contribute ten dollars a month or more. We mentioned here as an honorary producer. Helping keep you our listeners. Stocked with new episodes. But you don't have to contribute ten dollars a month to help us for as little as a dollar a month you can help us. Keep going paying for hosting storage fees transcribing old new episodes promoting in expanding the podcast. And other crap. I can't think of right now. So let's bring out these honorary producers and they are will rn's age counts Fahim Chirazi. Henry's the Moda James. Oh Bar Adam. Bello's Eric Phillips Paul Appel Julie Depre- Thomas Benson and the status quo podcasts. Your contributions are wonderfully helpful to us. Thank you very much. However if Patriot isn't your style you can contribute directly to us through pay pal at paypal dot me forward slash force on a hill or please check out our store on spread shirt. The Great Bill Karpinski did an awesome job designing our first shirt which you can find at shop dot spread shirt dot com forward slash fortress on a hill. Check Promo codes before you order and now let's get back to the podcast as you might be able to tell. I know just enough about Israeli politics and history to be dangerous rate I'm not an expert. But this is one of my side interests and I think what you laid out is is really astute a good insider's account it at this nuance that's completely lost here. In the United States in our coverage of the Israeli election I mean in the United States. It seems that the only discussion the only discussion of Israeli politics is if Netanyahu trump right. That's the question. And so if there's any criticism of Netanyahu it's very rarely on his policies within the West Bank or his policies towards the Palestinians and rather. It's on his corruption. Right it's on his Indictments and and his connection to trump. Because in the United States liberalism right to the extent that it exists is really an anti trump Ideology at this point which I think is highly dangerous and I think it's fascinating to see or hear the genuine gradations within Israeli politics and the and the right word ships and I think it's important to a podcast like this because we're most of our listeners are American to understand that this isn't just we're not just doing some sort of ethics study or some is three of another country for the sake of I mean there are there

are genuine. We can't over emphasize them because that would be wrong but there's genuine connections. I mean as Israel has moved right as as right wing ideology has become a more norm in the center in Israel. I mean the same thing has been happening in the United States over the course of a number of years if not decades and so I think this is a really interesting point and I'm glad that you dug into it and I know that I ask a Lotta questions but it's it's really. Yeah Yeah I mean I think this is the and this is going a little bit more political but I think you know very relevant to this topic but but you know I think for many many years You know the state of Israel has been around since nineteen for the I personally believe in. Israel's right or Jews right to self determination and you know I think that The the state of Israel is a is a reality I won't get into this but I just don't believe that our right to self-determination should come in the back of another people's right to self-determination but Israel the state and the state with recognized borders. You know from the International Committee in Nineteen Sixty seven with With occupation you basically We start seeing this process where Israel you know between the river and the sea.

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It's one st controlling all this territory And this This one St with control all this territory is in effect maintaining two separate regimes right to a democracy or flog democracy in Israel proper right. But there's still that potential for democracy. I'm talking from you from within Israel proper and the center of Israel You know and another regime which is military controlled area military dictators. These two regimes have been living side by side for many years and this has been the case not only now but but for many many years to these two separate regime what we see happening over the past decade and definitely in the past couple of years and you know trump era has helped amazingly push this process forward They couldn't have done this. Without the support of trump and the trump salmon deal you know slap of the century and you know with everyone to call these different names for this clan basically a movement which has always been in the fringe of Israeli society has now gained much more power and much more political power. And we're basically moving from this reality of one stage with tourists. Seems to want steak with wondering right so Many would argue that elements in occupied territory itself Resemble Apartheid Right Segregation Bentiu stands and so on and so forth And I think that something could be dealt with And definitely an argument that should be dealt with and put on the table but the process that we're talking about If we're going to be moving forward with annexation of territories and this is what. The trump plan is will allow. This is what there's rarely current government and we'll see what will be our next government but even the political opposition at least on the face of legitimized annexation were basically talking about Erasing this distinction between the two separate regime and just going full-scale apart and this is a very very dramatic Shift where we see this legitimacy for annexation almost across the political spectrum And this is why this last election that just ended very recently was very very important than was actually inconclusive but on the issue of annexation there is a majority or at least on the face of it a majority of legitimacy an as as an Israeli who believes in the importance of separating Israel. You know the legitimate Israel with defined borders Reich with I would maybe

call kosher Israel and non-kosher Israel like a legitimate state versus Non-legitimate reality this processes we're moving towards not only the legitimacy of the settlement but the legitimacy of permanent control over Palestinian in confined areas An annexation without giving Palestinians the right to vote And I think that this is really And I say this. You know with a lot of caution but this is basically You know moving into a regime that We ended with the end of apartheid in South Africa And there was a rally against this. This this plan was a rally against this until Aviv. Where you know you know. Thousands of Israelis went to the streets protesting. And we we we. We put together a sign which we walked around with his career in this parade and In this in this March and the sign said Don't make grades again And I think that basically the involvement of the US in the in the dreams of the far right right this this dangerous alliance between the Miss Yanic right and Israel believing in the greater state of Israel and the permanent control to the Evangelical base of trump Has Draw us to very very dangerous spot since you mentioned a breaking the silence. I was wondering if you would share a bit about The organization's mission and the ways that accomplishes it.

00:55:08 - 01:00:03

Yeah so breaking. The silence is You know as a group of Former Israeli vets We all served in the occupied territories and when we when we refer to occupy territories West Bank and the Gaza Strip Even though the Strip is controlled in different way than the West Bank is still under Israeli. Control in our view and We've been around since the beginning of the second Intifada. defy is Palestinian words for uprising or shaking off I one eighty seven seconds. One two thousand second seconds in defy. That was a very very violent clash. Between Israelis and Palestinians Thousands of Palestinians killed new clashes thousands of Israelis And this is really a defining moment for for many many Israelis and the very important moments in the region And the guy who started breaking the silence served during the peak of the sediment and one of the most craziest off in the Middle East the city of Hebron Hebron there in Arabic Khalil is a massive Palestinian city. Two hundred twenty thousand Palestinians living there today And it's the only Palestinian city today in the heart of it is an Israeli a bunch of Israeli settlements So you basically have about eight hundred Israeli citizens moving right in the belly. Button of the city on the guy who started breaking the silence. Serve their During the peak of the second you find out so in the craziest in the in the craziest moment And in the specific area that they were serving in parts of the city called H. Two which is under direct extreme Israeli control. You basically have about thirty thousand Palestinians living in this one specific area And amongst them are these Back then four five Israeli settlements. Now there's almost seven or eight disraeli. Settlement scattered in different areas. And where the soldiers were basically Order to do was instill into the Palestinian The sense that they're being chased. Straightness is sort of the literal translation. Order soldiers go or to Straw the day to day life of the Palestinian population in order to protect Israeli settlers And there were during their time there. There were About twenty two Israelis killed soldiers civilians including a ten month. You'll baby there were about nine. Palestinians killed including Fourteen Palestinian girl who stabbed by early settlers. We're talking about the crazy moment. That's at the end of their service. You know many of them sort

of collectively felt we have to do something with our experiences. And this is sort of the process of silence breaking but they refer to and in February. Two thousand four A A A group of these soldiers Put together a photo exhibit. Taking pictures that they can have on and combining them with their own personal testimonies and they with Guy Was the head of our bore. The Guy Miki cost one one of Israel's I would say Most renowned photo journalists They basically put together. This photo exhibit Which was A defining moment of of breaking the silence And thousands and thousands of Israelis came to hear these soldiers And because this was in the right moment toward the end of the second Intifada it sort of allowed. This openness allowed Israeli to listen And from this moment for the greatest silence continued on with with with our mission Which was which is which was and still is very simple to do whatever we can to end Israeli occupation. So we're not trying to make occupation better. We're not only you know we're not archive organization.

01:00:03 - 01:05:01

We want to end military control over Palestinian population. We do this with basically you know. One one message which is very simple and straightforward. We gather soldiers testimonies and publish them in different ways and the second thing we do is the base of that type of our testimonies and experiences. We do educational and we're actually the busiest anti-occupation movement organization in Israel Meeting Thousands of people every year You know from schools campuses to home van tours it open to the public Lectures talks And that's basically that's basically what what's breaking. The silence is day today. So we're last for him. For soldiers they can come forward and break their silence about their service in order to end military control over. Palestinian. I'll just I'll just I'll just add event that you know since we've since we we started in two thousand four we've Mac over one thousand Three hundred soldiers so different unit different places different Hind men women mostly combat but also soldiers serving in different positions in the territories Anyone serving And would like to sneak up. You know where the place to go. How does breaking the silence of the testimonies that receives? So that's a great question which we take extremely seriously I mean we have a research department The people running the research department are former soldiers themselves and our People who have given US testimony so Each and every test the fire that comes to speak with us Meets US RIGHT? So you can just You know leave a voice message or right taxed or we need each and every ESTA fire And that's a very important setting process. Just you know seeing the guy knows what he's talking about. The you know doesn't incense stuff for you. Know Time Unit and our people are interviewers. You know their stuff so it's very difficult to bullshit them But after we interview of the test you know the soldier the former soldier We also go we. We have internal vetting process where each Incidents right so every testify or has many different testimony so every testimony in order for it to be published needs to go through Pretty meticulous Process of feting I won't go into all the details but Generally speaking we need other sources To confirm that this offense happened. It happened like he mentioned Ended the details are right If there will be Gap between you know that information and another information. Either we go in you know. Find out what the truth or that we won't publish testimony and there are

many many testimonies. You know sitting on the bottom of editing room in that sense Been Public one of the things that. I imagine and I've read faces. You guys is attacks. A hate mail tax even from fellow soldiers. Probably some former friends Henry Kagan I deal with that to some extent. I do more and more as I've become more like a public writer and speaker and it's rough and I've always said that the the legal stuff you know when the military comes after you or the government comes out to you the official. Hey right the official attacks are actually less than the various and less disciplining than the pariah status and the social ostracisation And so I to make one comment and the next question. Which is you know one of the things that gets thrown around a lot too especially military dissenters in the United States. Is this term on American or anti-american? Right you're anti-american. If you area dirty laundry like you guys do internationally and domestically in America. It's the same thing and I was listening to know Chomsky because I'm a hardcore lefty The other day in the documentary and he said something really interesting to me.

01:05:02 - 01:10:01

And I WANNA know Your comments on this and then also just your experience with Receiving A and what Chomsky said was that the turn anti American or anti insert country Is Unique historically to more totalitarian and even fascist societies and he brings up the point that today you know in in the West as we know it you would be laughed out of Italy if you referred to your political opponents even your vehement political opponent as anti Italian. You know that that language doesn't really exist you'd be you'd be laughed away even if you hate. Berlusconi you know for example you would call an anti Italian and he even though he was this like bombastic you know. Demagogued wouldn't really referred to as on his anti Italian and Chomps the also points out that in today's Germany occurred sample to refer to. Someone is anti German because they disagree with you. Politically on barred affairs or domestic affairs would actually be considered dangerous given their nationalistic past. So what's been your experience with you know ostracization and hate and of course your peers as well and to. What extent is the title anti-israeli or something similar thrown at you Gosh Yeah all the time So you know D- definitely Not Not not per se the term anti-israeli but You know if you Yeah the chance to just google. My Name and the New York Times of video will pop off by an organization which basically a right-wing organisation that supports ten. How a group called Imperia to Basically calling me and leaders of three other anti-occupation human rights organization Planted right sort of blaming us to be Trojan horses of You know the west of European governments right. We're not real Israelis where And the video starts with Palestinian which is seen as the Palestinian terrorists coming stab and Israeli and sort of video continues. Where where voice over saying you know before the next Terrorists will attack you then of narrow gray who right yours truly will defend him and protect him Blah Blah Blah so basically de-legitimizing off not only our views but US personally And I think Specifically this group that that air this video this group called into It's actually a little bit of a funny funny story. But a few years back a few sort of bloggers and actor. This started a facebook group. Call calling this group Fascist and in theory to this group sued them and they lost so in Israel actually accepted the fact that they could be they could be seen

as having fascist elements. This was actually get laid later on overruled in the Supreme Court but but Still a very important clean Remember correctly Still a very important claim You know in an Israeli court to say well it's actually totally legitimate. Do that Or see them in in those in those colors. I think there's been a need Process of legitimization. Her anyone Any dispenser I I think that it's also nothing that can surprise us because you know when you have Alongside your flawed democracy a military dictatorships fifty years and the process is now moving into changing this reality to you. Know to an exit from the patient to annexation you have to destroy the liberal elements in society right. You have to attack the so the Supreme Court's and rule of law you have to attack and de-legitimize the press you have to attack and legitimize civil society organizations right I it it it. It even makes perfect sense.

01:10:02 - 01:15:06

So Yeah we've been under heavy attack as an organization As a community You know just a few of the highlights starting the end of two thousand seventeen sort of a government. Ngo what I would call gun goes government NGOs Or Non Governmental Organization that Basically Echo Chambers for government policy Launched this vicious campaign that I mentioned There are is backed by the government. There are attempts to different various legislation. That will Make a make a difficult for us to fundraise Prevent us from appearing in high schools. there was even a bill The just basically call to close US altogether. It didn't they didn't all pass but someone with other places around the world like Hungary Poland. You have these sort of Bills that their job is only to you. Legitimate don't even have to pass But there's also translated into attacks in the media right so the right attacks the media but also created on media outlets that will attack You know liberal values ideas and institutions. But there's also translates into Obviously online attacks Cyber hats and physical at that You know our members were passed physically in College. Campuses one of our My former CO director and one of the founders of the organization was Was attacked and during a tour in Hebron And there was also someone who was a cost with many leaders of gasoline. The names of all my workers and his plan was from what I understand. What's to come in Greenwich Offices So yeah I mean this incitement Trickle down And I think that it's all I would say you know besides the You know they extreme This had I on Israel's ability to have to have a conversation and and they extreme actions the government is taking in the most interesting thing to see was. The finalist leader is on the center. Right Center left that basically in some cases supported these actions and in other cases Were silent And I think this allowed. The lack of political. Opposition is a log of what allowed this Just to sort of put all of this in in in sort of sort of putting it all in the right context. I think this is nothing. Compared to what you know Alestinian they're going through on your occupation. I think this is nothing compared to what you know. Our friend activists are going through You know Battling You know were basically fighting for for their most basic rights. But I think the process we're seeing is that it's not enough anymore to oppress Palestinian And and the interest in processes were seen now that in order to maintain or move forward with this process you also have to oppress Israeli Jewish centers Because we're privileged. Because we still many of us are men many of us you know we all serve. We still have sort of this privilege of

Protection. But we see how The state is actively the STATE NOT RIGHT-WING ACTIVE STRIKE. The State is active league legitimising. Us And shrinking the space that we can operate them. it'll be very interesting to see What government will be formed and if this process will be a question going through your cue on the website awesome website by the way It says in there that the breaking the silence as an organization supports ending the occupation but not demanding systemic changes within Israel's government. And I was hoping that you might discuss that a little. Can You repeat that? What what what What are you hurrying to exactly It was a question on the. Faq talked about that wall breaking the silence as an organization supports ending the occupation.

01:15:07 - 01:20:14

It's not specifically pointed at the government of Israel or the idea in terms of making systemic changes. So that one occupation doesn't turn into another Can you can you elaborate on that a little bit Yeah I'm I'm just pulling up the question. I think what you're ferring to let me know if this is What do you mean We're where we basically ripe. That's our main criticism is because the military occupation but not necessarily criticizing the legitimacy of the existence of the state of Israel. That's what you're thinking you want to read it. You have you have it in front of you. I've I've got it right here. Let me see if I can find the right one. I guess I I had interpreted that to mean you know I. I understand about trying to ward off. unnecessary criticism. Just to just to push it down in terms of that you know you're Isreali certainly wouldn't criticize the existence of the nation of Israel but that how does breaking the silence work to fight the larger. Systemic militarism that is Part of Israel. I Guess Yeah No. That's a good question I mean. Look where where Our our mission where we see with our job is If the platform for soldiers to seek out again occupations from their perspective so when we talk about ocupation we talk about you. Know the territories Israel occupied post nineteen sixty seven. Israel also has soldiers on the northern border. Israel fought wars in southern Lebanon. Even a few wars One of them was during my time serving Many of our testify serve during that time. There were things there that we could theoretically be talking about. But that's not our mandate mission. Our mission is to talk about ocupation so It's not there. We don't have issues or questions. Generally with effective militarism in the society. Because obviously that's also produces the next generation of Israeli citizens supporting the next Operation and so on and so forth but Our problem is not with the military per se rights. We're not We're not necessarily anti militarist. Some of our members are but some of our members are not right But wh what what were we feel that our Our energy should be going. Is the talk about vac-vacation and investing sense. And that sense we will. We will make a distinction between There's rarely Palestinian and Israeli occupation is one element within the conflict. And I believe the conflict has to be resolved by both people with knowledge of each other and talking about our past or present or future when it comes to the occupation even though. I hope it will be solved with negotiations. The responsibility is on us. Because we're the ones maintaining it So so that's where I would sort of draw one You know that's where we're putting the spotlight on occupation There's a lot of you know there's history that that that could be discussed that we're not bringing up from where even I can't I wouldn't say ignoring I don't

think that's our mandate right. You know pre forty eight But also issues of militarism I think Armindo are First and foremost a Outcome of the patient and in order to to move into society that is genuinely more just and less militarize. The first thing we have to do is is is and military control. So you know we're putting that's where we're putting our and that basket makes sense so I think just one more question because we feel we don't WanNa keep you forever even though Left to my own devices.

01:20:14 - 01:25:01

If you're listening to cast this will just continue forever because I am just loaded with questions and I find fascinating not just to blow smoke up your ass. But because I don't know I see a connection between breaking the silence in this nascent instill week to be fair. Although growing movement of veteran descent in the United States and One of the things. We don't have that that you do is we. Don't have a draft right. The military conscription has gone Since the end of the Vietnam War that was done purposefully partly by Nixon and other folks in order to minimize the Senate And yet I think what's interesting about Israel and what's often brought up to me because Henry I. We don't hundred center with the trap. The week we do regularly bring up the idea that you know in our desperation to end these wars America's worst. We can't help but think man. If we brought the draft back and mothers had to worry about their sons daughters going into the military in college students to worry about what happens when they graduate that perhaps would be stronger into movables antiwar movement. Of course some people bring up as an opposition to me and it's a fair one that will look at Israel. You know Israel as you know. Israel has to draft yet. They maintain a very strong pro occupation physician or or Many Israelis do but we can talk about that in a second but also one that jumps out of me and this is really my final point you brought up. How one of the reasons breaking the silence goes overseas right. That you guys are willing to you. Know Air Your dirty laundry as the pejoratives stay is because you don't see the occupation as a solely Israeli Function and you brought up Sheldon Adelson. Of course which is wildly important and the influence of a pack and the lobbyists in the United States and supporters. The United States. But but I see a deeper historical connection. Ministering your thoughts on this a deeper historical connection between the United States and Israel that continues to this day that I would argue in Nabil's Israel Perhaps incredibly importantly perhaps vitally enables Israel's ability to flout international law maintain the occupation and one of the things I've talked about about the United States military is that we have over the last fifty years since the draft. We have pressurized which is just another way to save professionalized. We'd like separated our military from our society and I would art. And that's in our internal politics internal culture but we've also is realized. I I've said and I kind of a lot of trouble this meaning that we've chatted long-term overseas occupation as our mandate as our norm and the process. I've argued that the American military has gained some of the characteristics of the idea. And the influence that you talked about earlier that I asked about it. What it's done to the Israeli meltzer but I think this does Dick back to something deeper. Which is that. There is something unique about the American in the Israeli experience and it and this is an awkward truth both are at route settler colonial societies and. We're not alone right Many

Western on what many English speaking mostly english-speaking former colonies of Great Britain Have taken on. This historical sort of tenor Australia. New Zealand and Canada are all Settler colonial sides now they have done a bit of a better job with the reparations and apologies of kind of leaving that Not Perfect but better but Israel in the United States also have this set of a sort of mandate and in that sense. They have a bit too much in common inconveniently with say South Africa's and of course that connection is made all the time by a rousing his name wrong but Yulon pop is. I'm not sure how you pronounce that author's name the is that okay so he writes a lot about South Africa's apartheid in a million other things. I love him but You know South Africa falls apart internally and falls apart externally partly because of the Cubans. Thank you Fidel. But it only maintains its POW in the face of massive international illegitimacy sanctions and attacks because of the United States willingness willingness to support it as an anti communist regime to some extent. Israel's support Clandestine otherwise shoutout. So this is all to say that.

01:25:02 - 01:30:01

In a broad sense what connections and you've mentioned a little earlier do you see between the nature of the American and the Israeli state and therefore the ability for the occupation to continue which I would argue a pretty nefarious nexus between the two countries. Yeah I mean look I I think that I think that we should always Learn what we can from stoorikhel comparison. I don't think that Israel is a classic Settler colonial enterprise And I think that That's important too. I think that distinction is important for for many reasons one because I think it's true But but moreover because it It alludes allow you to belittle the the problem that we're in because It's true that Israel had support from Western government in different times route. You know from Zionist movement and so on and so forth but We cannot forget and I don't think it will be helpful to forget obviously and I don't by saying what you said you you are but It's important for me to put on the table. There is a historical Connection that Jews had to this specific land and because of after stoorikhel connection You had different groups connected to display throughout the year you know. I am a ninth generation Israeli. From my dad my mom as I mentioned roping upstate. New York and author of a survivor and someone with my dad does actually eighth. Generation Jerusalem generates generations Israeli now in the same manner I of Palestinian friend were Jerusalemites with could be seven eight and eleven th generation as well there. There is a dispute over connection to the land. I don't think there is a dispute about the involvement of Western power this side or the other Even though they were also you know various attempts on on both Jewish Zionists or and Palestinian Arab side to gain Support for their cause from External powers some in both cases actually attempts being power from Western powers. But I think it's very clear that designs move in from the get-go had backing from the strongest power this time namely the UK But but I think that Even though there is definitely comparisons to be learned I don't think that we're talking about sort of a classic Comparison And I think that Specifically sort of you know going going back to the distinction. I made between the conflict which I think has two side and bear for is less of a classic sort of settler colonial enterprise. There's really occupation is much more of a classic colonial enterprise Much more of an all year

style reality And and I think that that is again not not one to one but much more similar elements. And I think that is Where different military occupations resemble each other now is Israel sort of a model for the US Of the Abi Blunt. I don't think so. I think that there is the that. We're all learning from each other and I think in the same way that Silence is not Only you know we only have silence in those rayleigh military with as many different silences and there's really society but silence is not the only as epidemic every aside the silences I think that's where the moments And this could definitely be seen.

01:30:01 - 01:35:23

You know maybe you know post you know. September eleven and so on and so forth but I I think there's Drastic changes in world orders And Israel like other countries Has taken a sort of a nationalist chauvinistic nationalistic. Approach And you see other countries weighing as the same way you know again We met I mentioned Hungary but you know Boston narrow in in Brazil. The parents are in the Philippines I think there's more of a dramatic shift. happened in And many have talked about this Pretoria the collapse of the Post World War Two order and I have to say it's sad in my view that you know we're part of these states or communities culture is that this sort of Helping in this process but I think that there is. There is a more dramatic movements. And I think for that for soldiers that if you look at you know peace convention than old conventions and you know the Not The writing of of of ending documents many of them have come from soldiers coming back from the battlefield and then we also want to kill and be killed and I think that it's it's It's and the one hand Sad this is where we are and I think this is a global phenomenon not only American and Israeli but then the other hand it puts us in a position to To shout out and say you know we have. The responsibility on our shoulders of the generation of soldiers were killed in vain and killed in vain and we have to make sure that. I don't know if it's holding off sort of classic liberal ideas or revising them and thinking about something else. But I think that there is. There is a battle taking place on the most basic concepts and ideas that have have guided And I think it's a bigger than One blunder to leaders. I think this is a this is a new a new phenomenon. I don't know I don't know how the corona virus fifth and all this but that that's maybe that's maybe different conversation but I English we are in in a moment where you know this. The world is of illiberal. Democracies isn't isn't true anymore it they have risen and many illiberal democracies are today Are today sort of Giving sort of the marching orders. The I mean those are our great points and I think that you don't think but it to clarify you know my description And I think that you're right sir. Recognize that there are significant differences So it is dangerous sometimes when we When we draw the actions that I did So while I think there are connections I think that we do have to differentiate as you mentioned between Israel and the Israeli occupation which should in some ways are two different regimes. But you I mean I feel like I always have to say this. Whenever I'm a critiquing Israel especially United States in the liberal community is like. There's there's no part of me that denies the connection of the Jews to the region or the standing reality. Of course that Israel exists right in in Israel like any other sovereign nation or people deserves to have security and You know one of the arguments that I make and I think that you from everything I hear probably

agree with is that ultimately You know Israel is safer and just think America's If it eliminates the occupation right if it comes to some sort of peaceful settlement with the Palestinian state I mean I would argue and I think you agree although Michigan your thoughts and I know they said. That was my last question for this really. Is You know that. Ultimately the occupation has been counterproductive to civil liberties at home to a just The political discourse and to the safety and security of Israel because it creates a cycle of forever war and I think that that's been the case with America and what it calls terrorism worldwide So yeah so I I think that it is.

01:35:23 - 01:38:34

It is important that we not de legitimize Israel in the process of our critiques. And I never intend to do that however I think that it must be recognized and so few people seem to either here or in Israel that ultimately occupations empire whether they be Israeli or American are counterproductive. That actually make us less. No I I totally agree there there. I I think that you know where I think. You're totally right I think the for definitely for the better of the region Palestinians but also for the better of Israelis and Jews. Generally you know I think that Maintaining military control of another people is is very bad. anatomy different levels. So yeah I totally agree there goes. I think that's a good place for us to close today Abner thank you so much for coming chatting with dinning myself over really enjoyed. Thank you so much guy. This was great And thanks for the questions and the interest and BA great together at wanted air And if you guys come to the region where the snow with very happy thinking guys around and sort of keep Keep at it. He taught him about this. That would be great. The I may hold you to that. I've been wanting to come to Israel into the territory for a long time but Yeah thanks again. And just you know personally one on one I'm sure you're this lot but thanks for what you do. And for being part of what I think is a transnational Brotherhood of dissenting veterans. And so it's really great to work. You guys are all doing. Thank you a man. That sounds great. We'll be in touch. Take your bye. Bye Bye We're on twitter at fortress on a hill and also facebook.com at fortress on a hill. You can find our main blog page and are full collection of episodes at. Www DOT fortress on a hill dot com. I tunes stitcher. Google podcasts Patriot on spotify. You name it almost anywhere you listen. We're already waiting for you. And Hey we're always in the market for more Patriot. Supporters Please consider becoming a patron at Patriotair DOT com. And if you're not into giving us a monthly payment think about giving us a couple of bucks on pay pal link is in the show. Skepticism is one's best armor. Never forget we'll see next Awesome oh you will.