

*USS Liberty Veterans Association*

Joseph L. Meadors

*Survivor/Director of Operations*

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Blog: <http://www.usslibertyveterans.org/lvablog>

May 23, 2013

Nitsana Darshan-Leitner  
Shurat HaDin - Israel Law Center  
10 Hata'as St. Ramat Gan, 52512 Israel

Dear Ms. Darshan-Leitner:

I was aboard the USS Liberty when the ship was attacked on June 8, 1967. I serve my shipmates as Director of Operations of the USS Liberty Veterans Association.

I have recently read your announcement, "Shurat HaDin Calls for Arrest of Reporters Behind the al-Dura Hoax" which appears at <http://bit.ly/16RChHt>.

As you know, for decades USS Liberty survivors have publicly claimed that during the attack:

- We were attacked by unmarked aircraft;
- Our radios were jammed on both US Navy tactical and international maritime distress frequencies;
- Life rafts we had dropped over the side in anticipation of abandoning ship were deliberately destroyed by machine gun fire from the attacking torpedo boats;
- Attacking torpedo boats slowly circled the torpedoed and sinking ship while firing upon USS Liberty crewmen who ventured topside to help our wounded shipmates;
- Two flights of rescue aircraft that had been launched from Sixth Fleet aircraft carriers were ordered recalled while we were still under attack and calling for help;and,
- The United States government has never conducted an investigation of the attack.

You also know that the Government of Israel has claimed to have conducted two investigations of the attack both of which found that IDF personnel involved in the attack did not act improperly and that the attack was a case of mistaken identity.

In your press release as the title suggests you call for the "Arrest of Reporters Behind the al-Dura Hoax."

Further, you state that "This modern-day blood libel directly resulted in thousands of Jewish and Arab deaths and ignited a still-flaming torch of international hatred, only for the sake of raising FRANCE 2's ratings. This was perhaps the greatest journalistic hoax perpetrated in the last

hundred years. We demand that those who are responsible for this crime will bare the consequences of their actions. The State of Israel cannot simply allow FRANCE 2 to remain in this country."

We are confident that should we be successful in persuading the US government to conduct an investigation of the attack on our ship the report of that investigation will clearly state that Israel has been allowed to commit War Crimes against the United States with impunity and without remorse. Further, the report will clearly show that every Member of Congress has ignored every attempt by USS Liberty survivors to ensure the US government conducts an investigation of the attack thereby running the risk of violating Article 3, Section 3 of the US Constitution as well as becoming accessories after the fact of the War Crimes committed during the attack.

We are writing you with one purpose in mind. That is to ask that you treat us the same as you are treating those involved in the "al-Dura hoax", to wit:

- Demand that the US government deem our version of the attack on the USS Liberty "a hoax"
- Demand that the US government hold us responsible for perpetuating "the hoax" for almost 46 years.

We hope that you agree with us that we should not be immune to any legal action you may demand of the US government and we will support any effort you may deem appropriate in order to ensure the attack on our ship is finally put behind us.

Any effort, that is, except nothing.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Meadors', written in a cursive style.

Joseph L. Meadors  
Director of Operations