in-depth analysis of trends in the Arab world suggest that the long-term consequences for the U.S. will not be positive, but quite the reverse. This is true because the Israeli invasion and occupation of Lebanon has provided the Arabs with some significant lessons about the U.S. First, the Arabs have learned that the U.S. will always side with Israel no matter what impact such partisanship might have on its other interests in the region. Second, the U.S. support of Israel in this crisis has demonstrated the failure of the long-term efforts by the moderate Arab states — of which Lebanon is one — to induce the U.S. to adopt a more 'even-handed' approach in its relations with all states in the Middle East. Third. the U.S. cannot be expected to heed the grievances of the Palestinians no matter what political concessions they may make. Finally, a number of staunchly pro-American regimes may now fear that a too close an identification with the U.S. is not only futile, but could also be dangerous in terms of assuring long-term political stability in their own countries. These very important lessons are the very ones to which Kissinger and most of the American press are oblivious.

Overall, one can say that the U.S. press coverage of Israel's invasion and occupation of Lebanon has been remarkably one-sided. The tone of editorials especially has been offensive to Arabs and Americans of Arabic heritage. Many of the racist stereotypes which pervade the press accounts are inaccurate and demeaning caricatures of reality such as: Palestinians are terrorists; Arabs are Muslim and anti-Christian; Arabs are incompetent against the westernized Israelis; the war proved the superiority of American-made weapons; and that military might can make political right when dealing with "inferior" peoples. One of the most serious consequences of the prevalence of these racist attitudes is that the objects of prejudice are easily dehumanized. This has already happened in the case of the Palestinians living in Lebanon, the land where they took refuge after being driven from their homes in 1948 when Israel was created out of Palestine. Right now the Palestinians are in danger of being as brutally treated by the press as by their Israeli aggressors ●

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