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Error And Betrayal In Lebanon



Synopsis

Book by Ball, George W.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As part of the agreement leading to the evacuation of PLO fighters in Lebanon, Ball writes that the U.S. guaranteed the safety of the civilians who remained, including the families of the PLO fighters. When the massacre at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps began, the U.S. was unable and unwilling to stop the murder of civilians, including the murder of the families of the PLO fighters. Israel assisted the massacre by blocking the exits of the camps and preventing anyone from leaving, and by firing flares over the camps during the night, so that the killing could continue for 24 hours a day. [The death toll ranged from 700 (Israeli estimate) to 3,500 (estimate by writer Jonathan Cook.)]

A simplistic book from a brilliant man. It is also horribly dated. Israel's regularly scheduled invasions of Lebanon have not destroyed Hezbollah and more than Hamas's regularly scheduled rocket attacks on Israel have destroyed Israel. Accept the definition of insanity: doing the same thing the same way and expecting different results is insane. Once that is accepted it makes the entirety of the mid-East politics, internal and international much easier to understand. George Ball was against the war in Viet Nam, he extrapolated from that experience (he was an Under Secretary of State) that all wars are bad. So for Ball, PLO Bad, Hezbollah Bad, Israel Bad, Reagan Terrible.. I am not a Reagan fan and this book is not even remotely fair.

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