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To: ehud barak
Subject: question from chomsky, private of course

Forty years ago, Israel was one of the most admired countries in the world. =AO Now it is most disliked. Forty years ago it was pretty clear, as I wrote at the time (and I was far from alone), that those who call themselves "supporters of Israel" are in fact supporters of its moral =egeneration, international isolation, constant conflict and security problems, and maybe worse. So it has occurred. Israel even now has an official whose task is to deal with international isolation.=/p>

Israelis like to attribute all this to anti-Semitism, which hasn't=20 changed in the past 40 years. Or to appeal to "we have no neg=tiating partner," which won't wash. The problem is not Netany=hu. The policies and problems are much deeper. The crucial question is how long and how far will Israel proceed on the course to self-destruction.

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pl=ase note

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