

USA TODAY prints falsehood, Refuses to run retraction

- In 1967 Israeli forces attacked a US Navy ship and attempted to sink it, killing 34 American servicemen and injuring over 170.
- There have been many important developments since. For example, in 2003 an independent commission chaired by a four-star admiral and other extraordinarily high-ranking officials reported on Capitol Hill that Israel had committed “acts of murder against American servicemen and an act of war against the United States.”
- This blue ribbon commission also found that the President of the United States had recalled rescue planes, and that he had subsequently ordered a cover-up on the attack [Congressional Record, v. 150 #130]. This makes Nixon’s Watergate guilt look like jaywalking.
- NONE OF THIS HAS EVER BEEN REPORTED IN A USA TODAY NEWS STORY.
- Finally, on June 8, 2007, USA TODAY carried a news story on the 40th anniversary of this attack. **The story gives the Israeli spin. The USA TODAY reporter who wrote the story is an Israeli citizen (though this citizenship is not disclosed).** While the American survivors of this ruthless, two-hour attack were interviewed in the article, they say that the reporter ignored much of what they told him. This is a serious charge. We do not take it lightly.
- Reporter Oren Dorell introduces the incident by stating that “11 US investigations” over the years have reached the conclusion that it was “a case of mistaken identity.”
- **USA TODAY’s statement is absolutely incorrect.**
 - The reference librarian of the Library of Congress wrote in 2006: “After checking numerous resources ... I could find no evidence that the Congress ever held hearings or launched an investigation into the June 8, 1967 incident with the USS Liberty.”
 - The Department of the Navy assured Congress on March 16, 2005 that there has been only one US Government investigation of the attack. [This investigation has since been repudiated by its chief counsel. *See Congressional Record.*]
- Other researchers have also examined this claim – made frequently by Israel supporters. Detailed reports have found it to be hokum. [See article below.]
- Either Dorell and his editors were taken in by Israeli propaganda, or they knowingly replicated it.
- Either way, **USA TODAY is obligated to print a correction. They refuse to do so.**

We think USA TODAY owes it to these dead young servicemen, to their sisters and mothers, and to the American public, to report this incident accurately. The Israeli attack on the USS Liberty has profound geopolitical significance. Readers need full, unfiltered information.

For more information, see

***“American Media Miss the Boat:
For USA Today, Freedom of the Press Means the Right to Report It Wrong”
- CounterPunch, June 23/24, 2007***

Original CounterPunch title: “USA Today and the USS Liberty”

<http://www.ifamericansknew.org/media/misslib.html>