

Abbas to Call Off Elections, Blame Israel

by Hugh Fitzgerald



Now what seemed most likely is apparently certain: President-For-Life Mahmoud Abbas, now in the sixteenth year of his four-year term as head of the Palestinian Authority, will definitely call off the Palestinian parliamentary election that was to be held on May 22, and the presidential election scheduled for July 30. The reason is simple: all the opinion polls confirm that Abbas' parliamentary candidates would manage to win only 30 of the 132 seats up for grabs, and Abbas would lose the presidential election decisively against a candidate put up by Hamas, or against either of his two rivals Mahmoud Dahlan and Marwan Barghouti. Abbas wants to appear as still wanting to hold the elections, but unable to do so because the malevolent Israelis won't let the Palestinians in east Jerusalem vote. So it's all Israel's fault if the elections must be called off. A report on this farce is here: "Palestinian Authority reportedly set to announce election delay within days," [*Jihad Watch*](#).