

# Balagan Revisited: 10 Years After the Gaza Withdrawal

by Jerry Gordon (August 2015)

August 15-18, 2015 marked the 10<sup>th</sup> year following the Israeli unilateral withdrawal from 21 settlements in Gaza and four in Samaria. The legendary Israeli PM Gen. [Ariel Sharon](#), aka “the bulldozer,” convinced his cabinet with the aid of a complicit Israeli press corps to adopt the plan on June 6, 2005. The forced withdrawal witnessed 45,000 IDF troops and Israeli police in their largest non-combat operation eject residents and destroy settlements on the sand dunes in Gaza over several days. Four settlements in Samaria were similarly evacuated and destroyed ten days later.