

West Bank, for example, the planned route turns away from the Green Line to encircle the large Ariel settlement block, then veers sharply back toward the Green Line, and then changes direction again to protect Israelis in the Kedumim block before finally returning to the Green Line. This intricate route, in turn, substantially increases the total length of the barrier. (In other words, if the area around Ariel and Kedumim were to be enclosed with one large "bubble" rather than several winding "fingers," the total length of the barrier would *decrease* but the amount of West Bank land on the "Israel side" of the barrier would *increase*.) And because the length of the barrier increases, the *percentage* of the barrier that follows the Green Line decreases.

An alternate and perhaps more indicative figure describing the barrier's relationship to the Green Line can be reached by determining to what percentage of the *Green Line* is followed by the fence. Based on the UN's numbers, the pre-1967 boundary and the barrier overlap along **45 percent** of the Green Line.

Regardless of whether one looks at percent of the barrier's length (20 percent) or percent of the Green Line (45 percent), though, it is obvious that Carter's claim about the barrier being "entirely inside Palestine" is well off the mark.

Of course, Carter also avoids mentioning that those sections of the barrier built inside the West Bank are not necessarily in "Palestine" or on "Palestinian land." Every agreement signed between Israel and the Palestinians—and even an agreement between Israel and Egypt that was [signed by Carter](#) himself—has made clear that the boundaries between Israelis and Palestinians must be negotiated between the two sides.

CNN has been made aware of the error regarding the barrier's location, but has yet to broadcast a correction.

Carter again erred when he told Blitzer that Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak did not accept President Bill Clinton's peace proposal in December 2000.

CARTER: ... I hate to dispute Bill Clinton on your program because he did a great and heroic effort there. He never made a proposal that was accepted by Barak or Arafat.

BLITZER: Why would he write that in his book if...

CARTER: I don't know.

BLITZER: ... if he said Barak accepted it?

CARTER: I don't know...

BLITZER: And Arafat rejected it.

CARTER: **You could check with all the records. Barak never did accept it.**

Again, the ex-president urges viewers to check the records, and again those records prove Carter wrong. On Dec. 28, 2000, the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Chicago Tribune* and others all reported on the Israeli cabinet's acceptance Clinton's parameters as a basis for discussion.

Dennis Ross, who headed the American negotiating team during Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in 2000 and wrote the authoritative account of those negotiations, similarly notes that Israel accepted the Clinton parameters.

And as Blitzer pointed out in the interview, Bill Clinton wrote in his memoirs that "Arafat's rejection of my proposal **after Ehud Barak accepted it** was an error of historic proportions" (emphasis added).

(Carter even ignores sources sympathetic to the Palestinian narrative and other accounts by overtly anti-Israel sources. For example, Hussein Agha and Robert Malley, who have sought to rationalize Palestinian intransigence at Camp David, [admitted](#) that Barak accepted the Clinton proposals, as did the [Journal of Palestine Studies](#) and anti-Israel activists [Joel Beinin](#) and [Norman Finkelstein](#).)

Larry King Live

Other blatant factual errors were broadcast during Carter's Nov. 27 [appearance](#) on CNN's Larry King Live.

- In line with his tendency to whitewash Palestinian violence, Carter claimed that "**since August of 2004 ... Hamas has not been guilty of an act of terrorism that cost an Israeli life.**"

But on Jan. 13, 2005, Hamas took part in an attack on a Gaza Strip border crossing that killed six Israeli civilians. (Another Hamas suicide bomber blew himself up less than a week later, but failed to kill any Israelis.)

And it was on June 25, 2006 that Hamas-affiliated attackers crossed into Israel, kidnapped Gilad Shalit and killed two Israeli soldiers.

- Carter also claimed: "**Gaza is surrounded by a high wall. There's only two openings in it**, one into Israel which is mostly closed, the other one into Egypt."

In fact, there is no wall surrounding the Gaza Strip. While there is a wall between Gaza and Egypt, between Gaza and Israel there is a border *fence*. And there are not two but *five* crossings out of Gaza. Some of these crossings are closed at various points due to security threats, but in the month of November, they have all been open at various times. (See [here](#) for details.)

- Finally, Carter claimed that "**the Israelis have rejected almost entirely**" the **Road Map peace plan**.

But on May 25, 2003, less than a week after the Road Map was presented to both sides and despite having several [reservations](#) about the text, the Israeli government "[agreed](#) to accept the steps set out in the Roadmap."

The sheer number of factual errors in these two CNN appearances suggests that Carter either has scant knowledge of the facts, or little desire to truthfully discuss those facts. Either way, the basic points used by Carter to support his anti-Israel judgements continue to wither under scrutiny.