

Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 7:06 AM
Subject: British fascists embrace Zionism

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS



The Zionist Federation of Britain and Ireland are planning a demonstration tonight. They will be meeting at the Israeli embassy (2 Palace Green, London, W8 4QB) Green, London, W8 4QB) at 19.00 on Wednesday 2nd June. This is clearly a provocation, and is best ignored.

However, what is interesting is that the **English Defence League** (EDL), the far-right group which has brought hooligan gangs onto the streets for inflammatory Islamophobic marches, has announced that it is backing the Zionist demonstration; and their support has been welcomed by the Zionists.

Recently in Dudley, two EDL members protested against a proposed mosque in the town with a rooftop protest, where as evidence of their patriotism and love of England they flew the Israeli flag!

The EDL are clearly seeking to gingerly expand the political horizons of their supporters, not only with explicit support for Israel, but also by their website describing their political opponents as "commies".

The EDL remain a potentially very serious political threat, especially as they are regularly managing to mobilise significant numbers of hard cases onto the streets. But part of their danger has been that their emphasis on Islamophobia has been running with the grain of

widespread mainstream opinion, and in the context of the Afghan war they have provided an avenue for an unstable cocktail of emotions to express itself.

Identification with Israel, at the time when that is clearly against mainstream political opinion (see the highly critical articles against Israel in the Daily Mail and Telegraph), is potentially damaging for the EDL, and perhaps hints that they may be overreaching themselves. The EDL are of course also strange bedfellows for the Zionist Federation, and whereas supporters of Israel would previously have looked to a Conservative Prime Minister for support, they now have to make do with some boneheads who meet in a pub skittle alley in Peterborough.



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