

From: Carmen Villani cdv76@icloud.com

Subject: Per Our Conversation

Date: February 5, 2025 at 3:00:34 PM

To: [REDACTED]@miryaminstitute.org

[REDACTED]

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me earlier. Here is the letter that myself and three other alumni from VMI would like to share with Mr. Anthony.

In addition to the letter below, you may find this information from the awarding winning student newspaper, The Cadet, informative. Mr. Crane had the opportunity to respond but declined.

"Guillette claims AIM approached VMI prior to publishing the results of its investigation but both VMI and Crane did not respond."

"VMI, the Alumni Agencies, BOV, and Mr. Crane himself are staying silent.

The staff of The Cadet is prepared to meet with Mr. Crane at any time and allow him to provide his perspectives and comments on this situation."

See: <https://cadetnewspaper.com/news/848/questions-raised-about-/>

I appreciate your interest in this troubling matter and if I can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Regards,

Carmen D. Villani, Jr.
VMI, Class of 1976

Dear Mr. Anthony,

It has come to our attention that you will be speaking at our alma mater, the Virginia Military Institute (VMI), February 17th through the auspices of the Courageous Leadership Series. We would like to

bring to your attention an ongoing situation at VMI that each of us find disturbing and vigorously opposed to, and to which you may be unaware of. It involves Mr. Phillip Crane, an instructor and VMI graduate that is currently on staff at VMI and underwritten by the VMI Alumni Association's Peay Endowment. Before joining the VMI faculty, he was a graduate student at Columbia University and secretary of the "SIPA Palestine Working Group," which has demonstrated to be sympathetic to the "genocidal organization Hamas."

In an interview you did on TBN, you describe the horrific acts of terrorism by Hamas on the innocent people of Israel in the following manner: "Hamas is a genocidal organization committed to the murder of innocent Jews, committed to the murder of Jewish women, men, children, unborn children to their kidnapping and to torturing the Jewish people with the hope the Jewish people will be annihilated and destroyed, but the reality of the matter is they will bear the brunt and the burden of what they have undertaken today. . .but the true mistake that will come to light for all to see is Hamas' ill-conceived evil deeds because they will pay a tremendous price as a consequence of that."

[TBN: Hamas Must Be Destroyed — The MirYam Institute](#)

Now contrast that with the letter justifying those "ill-conceived evil deeds" that Mr. Crane put his name to as noted by Accuracy In Media (AIM): **"The weight of responsibility for the war and casualties undeniably lies with the Israeli extremist government and other Western governments, including the U.S. government, which fund and staunchly support Israeli aggression, apartheid and settler-colonization."**

To make matters worse, VMI officials attempted to dismiss these serious allegations with an anonymous letter on the Office of the Superintendent letterhead while providing no evidence to support their position that "the allegations about Crane are false." The letter closes with VMI being "committed to providing an environment that emphasizes the dignity and self-worth of every member of our community." What about the dignity and self-worth of the entire Israeli population?

In support of our position, we are providing a link to the article by Mr. Vitale, Class of 1961, that was published on the STARRS website. In his letter, there are hyperlinks that will provide documents highlighting what was stated above as well as an extensive amount of additional evidence supporting our position and why we are compelled to bring this troubling matter to your attention. See: [VMI's Integrity at Stake | STARRS](#). As Mr. Vitale enumerates, "this is not a minor issue – it demands scrutiny." We hope and encourage you to stress how antisemitic demonstrations like that which occurred at Columbia University and the letter allegedly endorsed by Mr. Crane justifying the "murdering and torturing" of the Jewish people should be rejected by the public and those at VMI. Thank you for giving this letter your consideration and bringing your perspective to the Corps of Cadets at VMI.

Mr. Sal Vitale '61, Mr. Larry Respass '61, Mr. Carmen Villani '76, Mr. Henry Rogers '79