


LEBANON

BORDERS OF BLOOD

Documentary series 5X50 minutes
Feature documentary 90 minutes
Release date: January 2021
Produced by: Zygote Films and Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion

A large, dark, billowing plume of smoke and fire rises from a city, dominating the upper half of the frame. The smoke is thick and dark, with a bright orange glow at its base where the fire is. In the foreground, several modern, multi-story buildings are visible, some with balconies and windows. The sky is a pale, hazy color, suggesting a clear day. The overall scene conveys a sense of a major disaster or conflict.

Today, Lebanon is on the brink of collapse.
Tracing the country's history reveals how a minor regional
conflict escalated into a full-blown geopolitical crisis.



Lebanon: Borders of Blood brings to light how a series of catastrophic decisions can forge the destiny of millions.

For the first time on screen, the epicenter of the Middle East geopolitical crisis is represented and discussed from all sides of the conflict.



With unprecedented access to individuals, directly involved, and startling, never-before-seen footage, the series weaves personal stories of its interviewees in a captivating and emotionally charged documentary.


Amid acts of extreme cruelty and absolute courage, shreds of humanity and dignity remain. These personal narratives are witness to Lebanon's tragic story arc, paid for in human life from ongoing wars and their aftermath.





The series uncovers new revelations on the key inflection points of Lebanon's modern history:

The outbreak of the 1975 Lebanese Civil War, the 1982 Israeli invasion, the 1983 Sabra & Shatila refugee camp massacres, the 1983 bombing of the US Marines compound, the assassinations of Lebanon's presidents, the rise of Hezbollah, and the widespread demonstrations in Lebanon occurring today.

A group of men, including military and intelligence personnel, are gathered outdoors for an interview. A man in a dark jacket with a fur collar is speaking into a microphone. Other men in military uniforms and civilian attire are visible in the background and foreground.

The filmmakers have worked diligently to screen a broad and diverse selection of individuals who could provide a balanced, 360 degree panorama on the subject. After pre-interviewing over 100 militia members, army soldiers, intelligence officers, journalists, civilians and leaders, the best and most interesting storytellers were chosen.

Here are some of them:



People from all sides of the tragedy



Fahad Al Masri
Syrian opposition leader

Darina al Joundi
Lebanese actress

Assad Chaftari
Christian Phalange officer

Gabi Jamal
Palestinian PLO soldier

Giora Inbar
Israeli IDF soldier

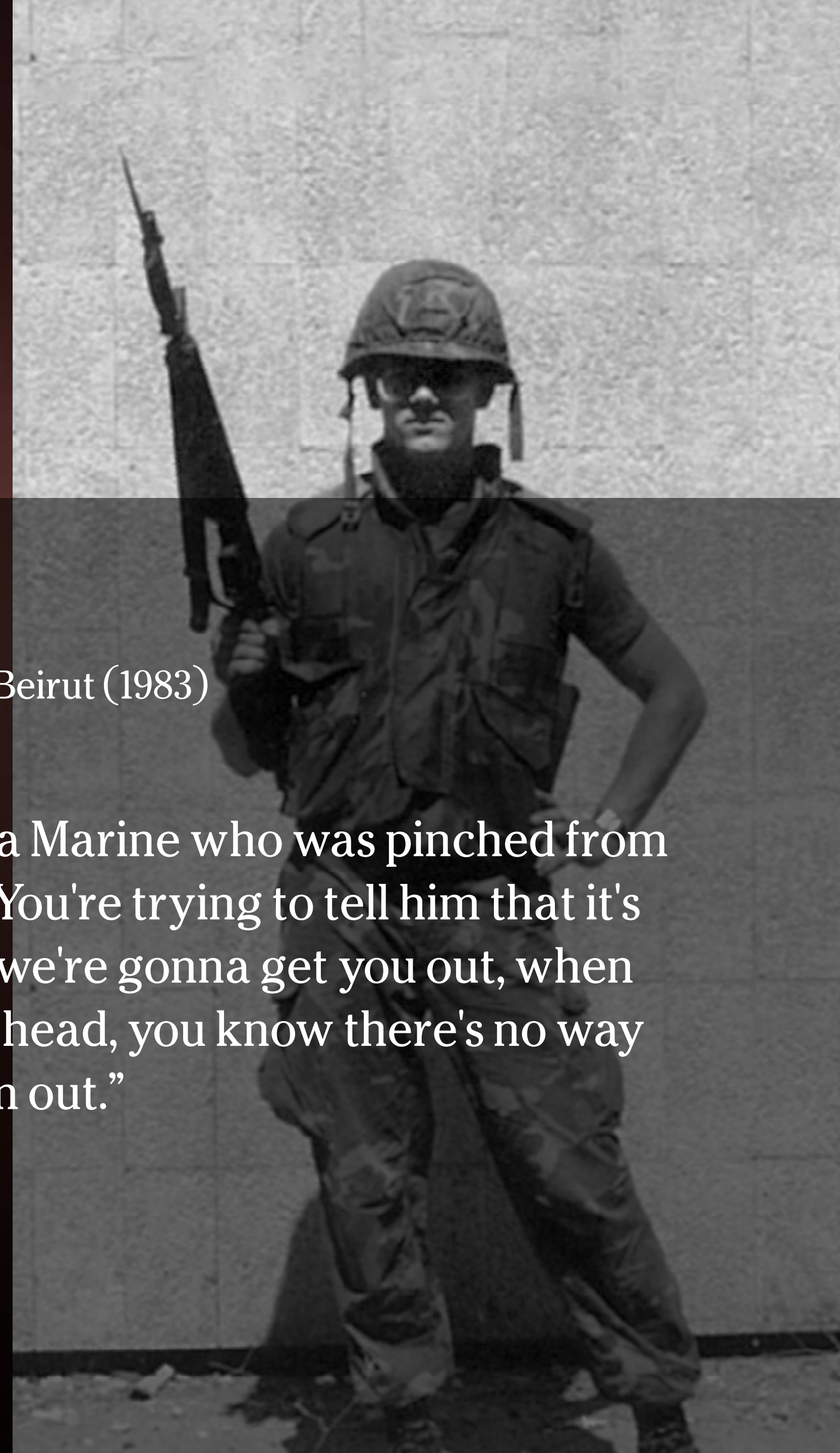




John Dalziel

U.S. Marine Corps in Beirut (1983)

“I was talking to a Marine who was pinched from the waist down. You're trying to tell him that it's going to be fine, we're gonna get you out, when in the back your head, you know there's no way we're getting him out.”





Hanin Ghaddar

Lebanese Journalist

“Lebanese were cheering for Hezbollah.
For me it was not my war. It was a war
between Israel and Iran on my land.”

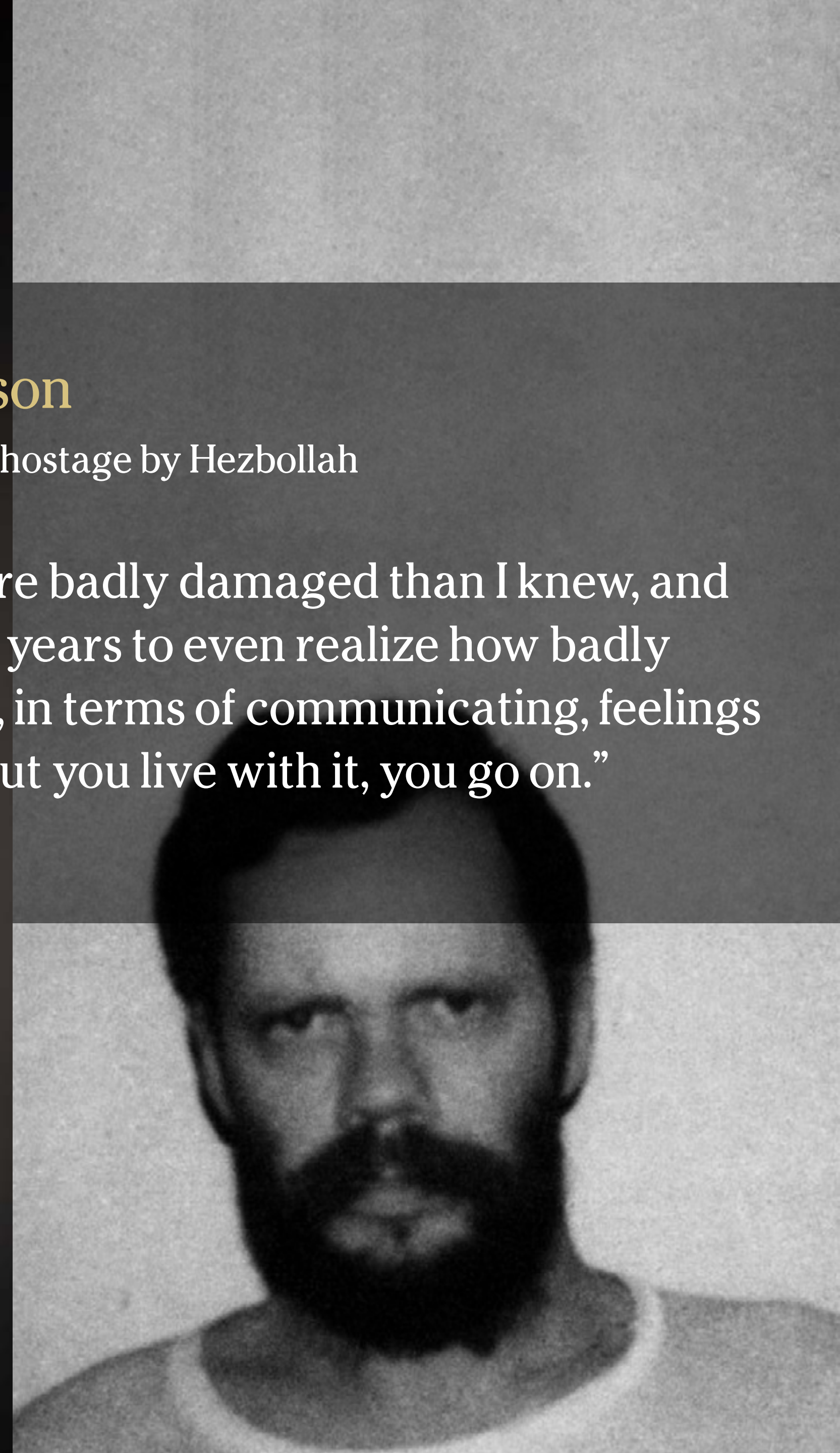


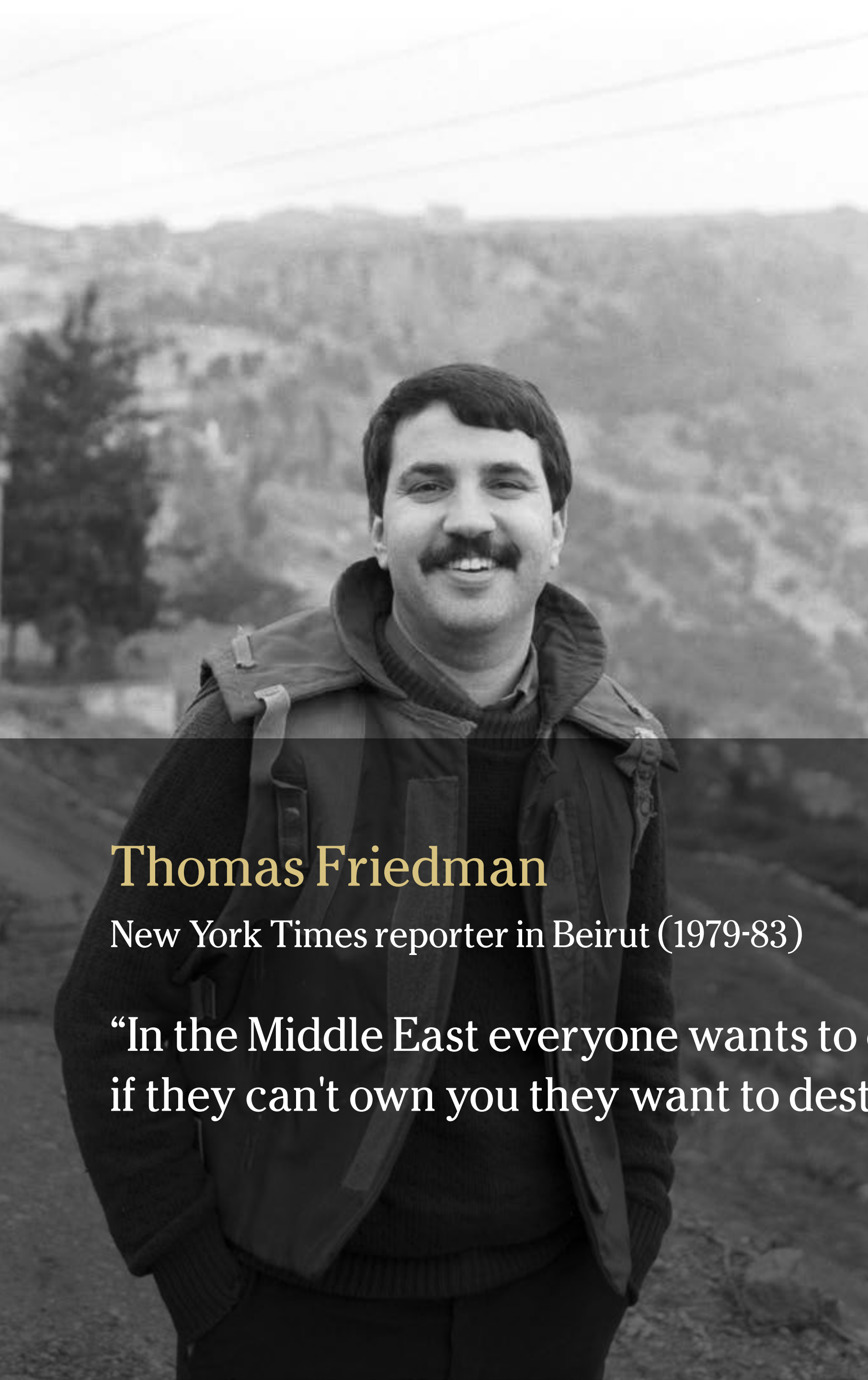


Terry Anderson

AP Journalist taken hostage by Hezbollah

“I was much more badly damaged than I knew, and it took me some years to even realize how badly damaged it was, in terms of communicating, feelings and emotions. But you live with it, you go on.”



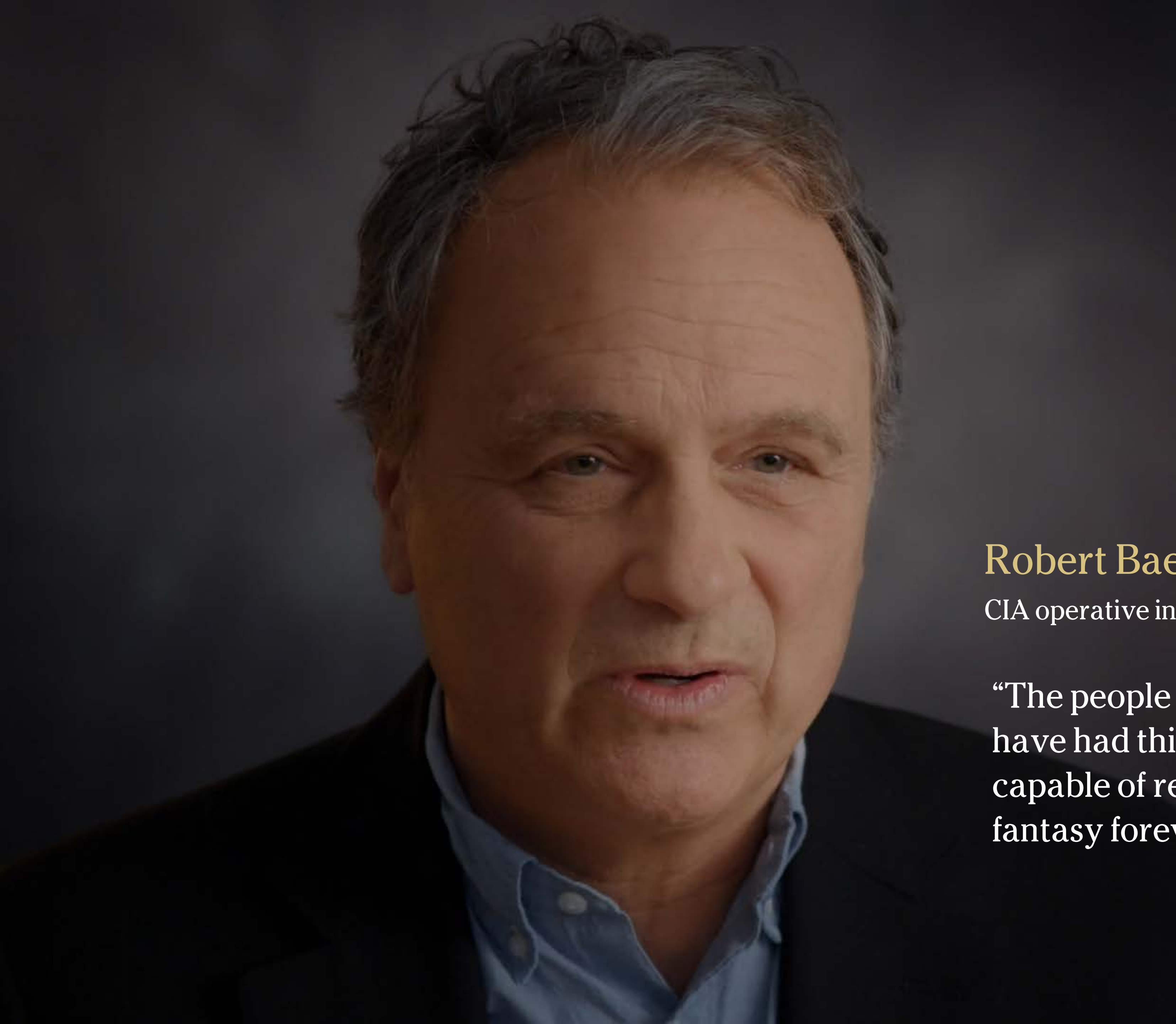


Thomas Friedman

New York Times reporter in Beirut (1979-83)

“In the Middle East everyone wants to own you and if they can't own you they want to destroy you.”





Robert Baer

CIA operative in Damascus and Beirut (1981-84)

“The people who make policy in Washington DC have had this fantasy that the United States is capable of remaking the Middle East. It's been a fantasy forever.”

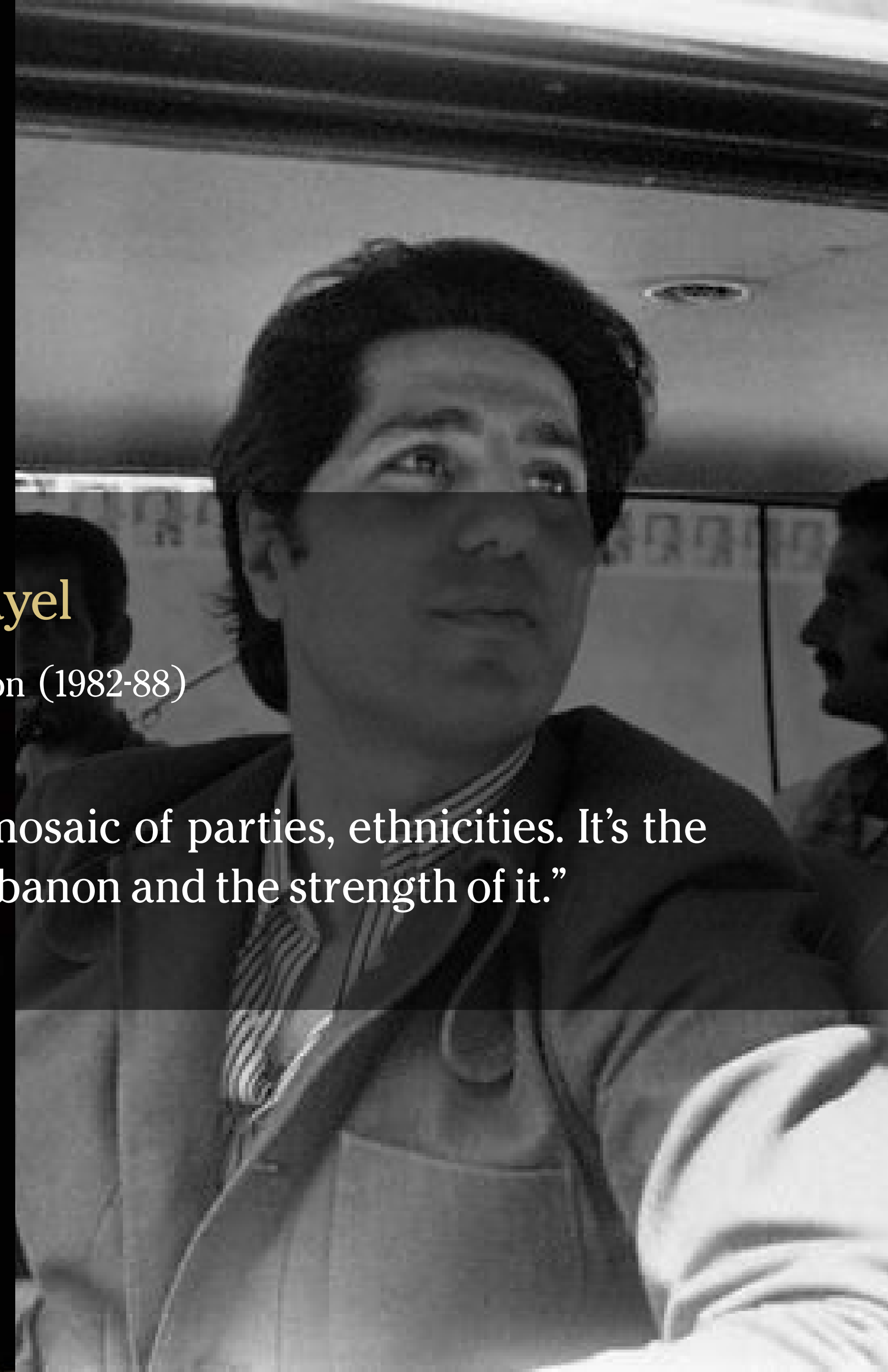


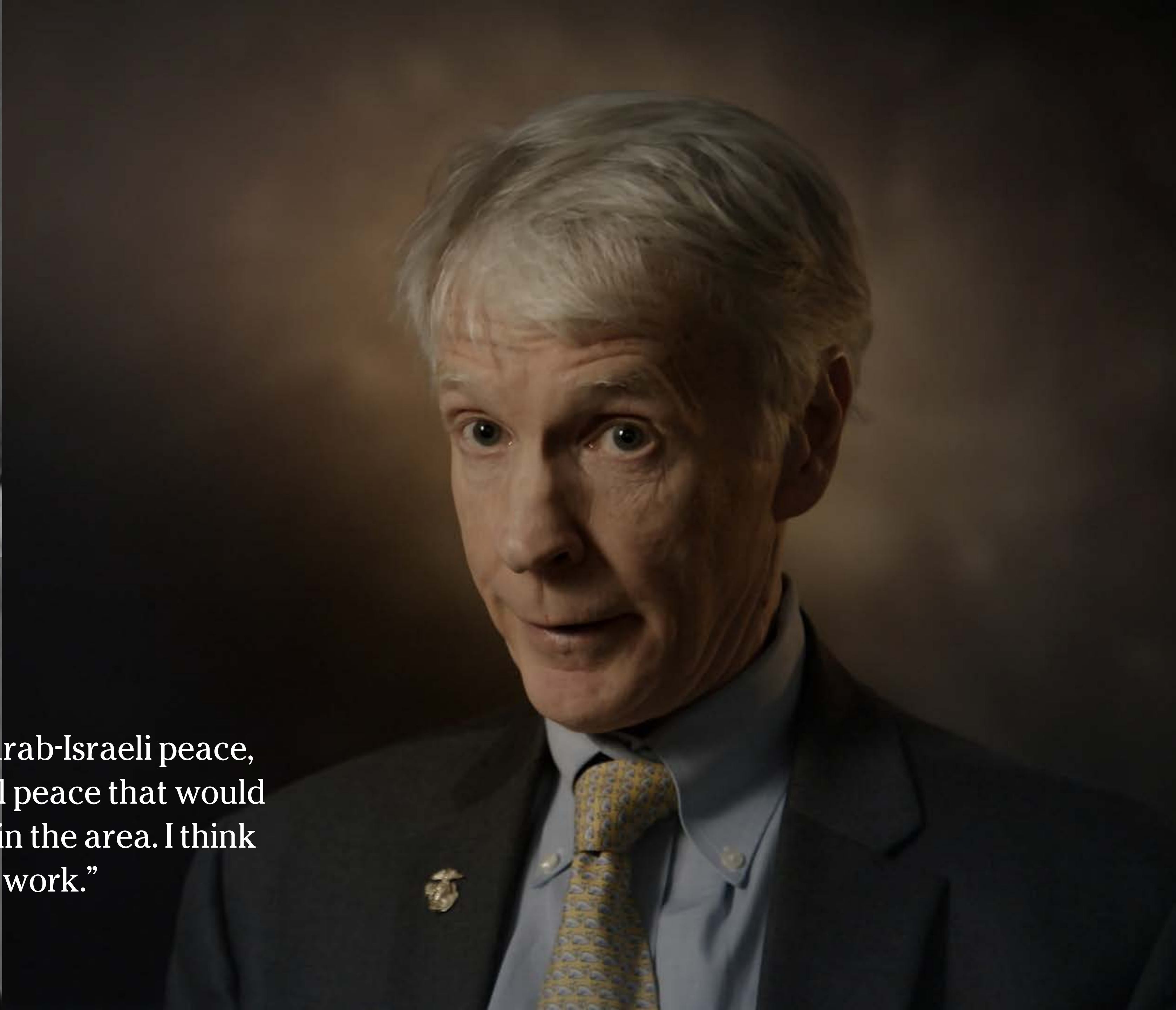


Amine Gemayel

President of Lebanon (1982-88)

“Lebanon is a mosaic of parties, ethnicities. It’s the weakness of Lebanon and the strength of it.”





Ryan Crocker

US ambassador to Lebanon and Syria

“The thought was if we can't get an Arab-Israeli peace, maybe we could get a Lebanon-Israel peace that would be the foundation for broader peace in the area. I think we all knew that really wasn't gonna work.”

Anat Saragusti

Israeli war photographer.

Ehud Olmert

Former Israeli prime minister.

Samir Geagea

Lebanese militia war-lord in the past and a key political figure in Lebanon today.

Asaad Chaftari

Lebanese Forces intelligence commander.

Abu al-Arz

Head of the Christian militia Guardians of the Cedars.

Imad Shakur

Yasser Arafat's advisor.



A close-up, artistic photograph of a woman's face. She has dark hair, brown eyes, and is wearing bright red lipstick. A teal-colored nose ring is visible in her left nostril. The background is dark and out of focus.

CORE TEAM

Director / Executive Producer Duki Dror – A prolific filmmaker responsible for many critically acclaimed documentaries over a 25-year career, among them: “Raging Dove” (Sundance Channel), “Down The Deep Dark Web” (France 4) and “Inside The Mossad” (on Netflix).

Executive Producer Reinhardt Beetz – One of the leading documentary producers in Germany, Reinhardt, along with his brother Christian, has produced more than 120 high-quality and feature-film documentaries for the international market.

Editorial Producer Dana Wolfe – A former producer for ABC News, Nightline with Ted Koppel. Her work has been recognized with five Emmy Awards, a duPont-Columbia Award, and, most recently, six consecutive radio awards.



ZYGOTE FILMS

gebrueder**beetz**
FILMPRODUKTION

KAN
Israeli Public
Broadcasting Corp



WDR /
FERNSEHEN

arte

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