

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2012 5:27 PM
To: H
Subject: Rosen

Nir Rosen is an American journalist known for his writings on the rise of violence in Iraq following the 2003 invasion, which form the basis of his first book, *In the Belly of the Green Bird* (2006).^[3] He spent more than two years in Iraq reporting on the Coalition occupation, the relationship between Americans and Iraqis, the development of postwar Iraqi religious and political movements, inter-ethnic and sectarian relations, and the Iraqi civil war.

He has regularly contributed to leading periodicals, such as *Atlantic Monthly*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Boston Review*, and *Harper's*. He contributed to the footage of Iraq in Charles Ferguson's documentary *No End In Sight* and was also interviewed for the film. Rosen has written extensively against the surge in Iraq, notably in a March 2008 article for *Rolling Stone*.^[4]

From 2005 to 2008, Rosen was a fellow at the New America Foundation.^[5] In September 2007, he was the C.V. Starr Distinguished Visitor at The American Academy in Berlin.^[6] On April 2, 2008, Rosen testified before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee at their hearings on political prospects in Iraq after the surge.^{[7][8]}

From 2008 to 2011, Rosen was a fellow at the Center on Law and Security at the New York University School of Law,^[9] until his resignation in the wake of his controversial statements about Lara Logan's sexual assault in Egypt.^[10]

In March 2011, Mary Kaldor, Co-Director at the Center for Global Governance at the London School of Economics had hired Rosen as a research fellow to work on North Africa.^[11] This created controversy due to Mary Kaldor's involvement in the LSE Libya Links affair.^[12] After two days, Rosen resigned from his position as a fellow at the London School of Economics. An LSE spokesman said, "Nir Rosen today resigned his temporary visiting fellowship at LSE—which was an unpaid position."^[13]

[edit] Controversy

In February, 2011 Rosen commented to his Twitter account regarding Lara Logan, Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent for CBS News, who was beaten and sexually assaulted in the February riots in Egypt.^[14] "Jesus Christ, at a moment when she is going to become a martyr and glorified we should at least remember her role as a major war monger," wrote Rosen.^[15] Rosen suggested that she was trying to outdo Anderson Cooper, who was attacked but not sexually assaulted just days before, and that it would have been humorous had Cooper suffered a similar assault, saying "it would have been funny if it happened to Anderson too."^{[16][17]} Rosen later posted an apology on Twitter^[18] and resigned his position as a fellow at New York University's Center on Law and Security.^[19] Rosen stated that he did not read the CBS News press release^[14] to which he had linked, and that at the time of his comments he did not know Logan's assault had been sexual.^[20]

[edit] Beliefs & views

Rosen believes that Hezbollah is not a terrorist organization, but rather a "widely popular and legitimate political and resistance movement".^[21] In April 2008, when asked by then-Senator Joe Biden what could be done to improve the situation in Iraq, Rosen replied, "As a journalist, I'm uncomfortable advising an imperialist

power about how to be a more efficient imperialist power. I don't think we're there for the interests of the Iraqi people. I don't think that's ever been a motivation."^[22]