

The New York Times

Cover Story - Arts & Leisure - May 15, 2005

“A California architect and political naif has proposed an elegant plan for a new state. Against all odds, people are listening.”

“... a reimagining not only of the landscape, . . . but also of the Palestinian experience.”

“Mr. Suisman . . . posits a state of motion. He calls it ‘the Arc’. . . a glimpse, seen so rarely these days, of a reconciling land, post-conflict, post-occupation, post-terrorism.”



Paris, July 11, 2005

“A utopia anchored in reality”.



London, May 24, 2005

“It’s a futuristic concept as stunning as it is implausible . . . It may be no more than a dream but true progress rarely comes without starting in a dream.”



Brussels, June 23, 2005

“...a particularly well-designed future dream...the Arc is meant to not only become the physical backbone of the future Palestine, but also the economic life-line. This is sorely needed...”



Baltimore, June 9, 2005

“Envisioning [the Arc] transforms the ideological construct of a Palestinian state into a plausible, geographic reality.”



Washington, All Things Considered April 27, 2005

“The international community’s “road map” for peace in the Middle East now [has] a rail map, too... as well as plans for telecommunications and other essential services.”



جريدة يومية سياسية تأسست سنة 1951

(Al-Quds) Jerusalem, May 28, 2005

“This huge project is certainly intended to put Palestine on an equal footing with the developed countries as to modern transportation and high-tech communications. It is also evident that it helps to document the lack of communication among the Palestinian provinces, especially between Gaza and the West Bank...the news about this project is receiving positive and encouraging feedback from the Palestinian people...”



Tel Aviv, April 25, 2005

“Even a total pessimist can draw optimism from the vision of the Arc.”



May 2, 2005

“... a refreshingly concrete and comprehensive proposal for building a successful Palestinian state.”



Jerusalem, April 28, 2005

“The report, which offers a 10-year plan to improve all sectors of Palestinian life . . . looks beyond conflict resolution and explores the necessary elements for a successful Palestinian state.”



New York, October 11, 2006

“Design Meets Diplomacy”

“Over the past three years, while teams of politicians, lawyers, and international negotiators have attempted to hammer out a sovereign Palestinian state—and, more importantly, an eventual peace agreement between the Israelis and the Palestinians—Los Angeles architect and urban planner Doug Suisman has quietly focused on a largely overlooked aspect of the conflict-ridden issue: What might Palestine look like after a peace accord is signed? His answer is the Arc, a proposed urban blueprint of a Palestinian state that enables fluid movement between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.”

INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune

Paris, May 17, 2005 - worldwide

"When Suisman finished a recent presentation to the Palestinians in Ramallah, on the West Bank, Jihad al Wazir, the deputy finance minister, broke the silence by saying he had tears in his eyes. 'I was very moved', al Wazir said later. 'It had that beauty of simplicity of design, and coherence, and comprehensiveness...a unifying vision for a future Palestinian state.'"



Jerusalem, January 2006

"Earlier this year RAND made public a proposal suggesting a vision of how the Palestinian state could be designed and developed, something resembling a master plan or grand scheme. This proposal, which includes the transportation link called the "Arc," can serve as a positive contribution to Palestinian planning... The proposal is comprehensive and will induce major development and create economic viability...What is most attractive about the plan is that it will allow for the needed developmental approaches to be implemented".

Detroit Free Press

Detroit, May 1, 2005

"Whatever their needs, from transportation to an Internet connection, Palestinians would hook into the Arc to make it happen...If the environment is perceived as stable and safe, tourists and pilgrims from [other] countries will come, delivering perhaps the quickest infusion of money to both the new Palestinian state and to Israel."

EL PAIS

Madrid, September 19, 2005

"...Palestine May Have the Shape of an Arc - A U.S. planner has designed the possible structure of a viable Palestinian state if peace is achieved...to read the one hundred pages of "The Arc" arouses the imagination."

Richard Gluckman, Architect
New York

"Beautifully simple. Simply beautiful."

Bloomberg.com

New York, April 3, 2006

"It's a concept of breathtaking sweep and simplicity, yet it's surprisingly practical...the elegance of Suisman's idea -- and its ready comprehensibility -- has drawn worldwide press and political attention."

Hartford Courant.

Hartford, January 20, 2006

"Audacious...elegantly beautiful and simple plan for creation of a Palestinian state...just what Connecticut needs if it, along with larger region of New England, is going to grow and prosper."

 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

Washington, September/October 2005

"The Arc. . . is one of those rare planning documents, enriched with comparative data and meaningful illustrations, that both instructs and persuades. . . The RAND corporation has done itself proud. . ."



Washington, April 29, 2005

"...the projects RAND envisions are absolutely essential if there is to be lasting peace."

Moshe Safdie, Architect
Boston - Jerusalem

"I like the boldness of the thinking and its powerful suggestion that an intense infrastructure spine can become the lifeline of a Palestinian community."



AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS

Washington, January 2006

"Clear and compelling framework plan...conveyed with extraordinary sensitivity...a visionary plan built on logical approach to infrastructure creating immeasurable hope for a displaced people and nation."

Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles, May 10, 2005

“...the signposts the RAND study reveals are important and deserve study by both Israeli and Palestinian leaders. Independent neighbors at peace, no matter how cold that peace, would go far toward bringing stability to a part of the world where it has long been lacking.”

August 24, 2005

“I’m very high on [the Arc]...as a framework for dealing with issues in a productive way that has a real opportunity for success, it’s worthy of very serious consideration”
- UCLA Professor and Mideast expert Steven Spiegel



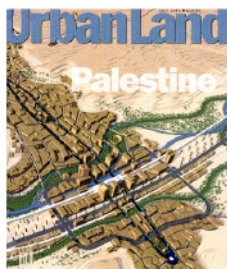
Los Angeles, December 2005 - Citation for AIA Honor Award

“A bold plan...the awards jury was unanimous on this entry, whose strength derives from the simplicity of its diagram and its depth of research...elegant, clear... It’s amazing that this investigation is even happening. With a line that becomes an important seam in the landscape, the project integrates complex systems in an unprecedented and breathtaking way.”

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

October 2006 - New York

“The Arc is a bold and simple - even elegant - solution.”



Cover Story - Washington, July 2005

“Possibly the greatest challenge facing the world today, yet one that is hardly ever discussed, is that of rebuilding Palestine. Israel’s planned withdrawal from Gaza seems to beg the question ‘What will the new country of Palestine look like?’. The Rand Corporation, an independent, non-profit think tank, sought to

answer this question...The winning plan has been presented to the White House, the European Union, and the World Bank, among others. Conceived by urban designer Doug Suisman, the plan is especially elegant in that it focuses not on some eventual peace agreement on a state’s boundaries, but on how life might be lived the day after peace—on ‘the patterns of human life as shaped by its setting’.”



New York, January 2006 - Citation for “Progressive Architecture” Award

“Clear, functional logic...a great project.”

WORLD ARCHITECTURE NEWS.COM

London - May 2005

“Visionary Scheme for Palestine—Urban Planner’s Vision Could Provide Solution to Middle East Conflict... Could architecture provide the answer to one of the 21st Century’s major international disputes? Suisman Urban Design...have come up with a radical solution for the creation of new Palestine including futuristic infrastructure plans linking the new state to regional transport hubs including Cairo. Core of their proposal is ‘The Arc’, a 130 mile green corridor sweeping through the West Bank and looping into Southern Gaza. It would provide a fast rail and aqueduct. Initial reactions are that the Palestinians love it. . .”



American Planning Association

Los Angeles, July 2005

LA-APA readers will be interested in this book by California architect Doug Suisman, whose vision and ideas were featured in the New York Times. In the book, “The Arc: A Formal Structure for a Palestinian State,” Mr. Suisman and a team of RAND researchers present groundbreaking proposals for the infrastructure and urban design of the new state of Palestine.

The Day

New London, December 25, 2005

“Launching an Arc for Survival...I was intrigued by the possibilities of a ‘Gaza demonstration’ after having read an article in the New York Times on a plan by the Rand Corp., which commissioned Doug Suisman to design a physical “infrastructure”...The Arc does not solve all the political issues between the Israelis and the Palestinians... but as the Times article points out, if you believe in a two-state solution, you have to start somewhere planning the new Palestine.”



Santa Monica, May 31, 2005

“Until this moment, when Doug Suisman came up with something, no one had actually designed a map to show the world, to show the Palestinians, what in fact the future could look like.”