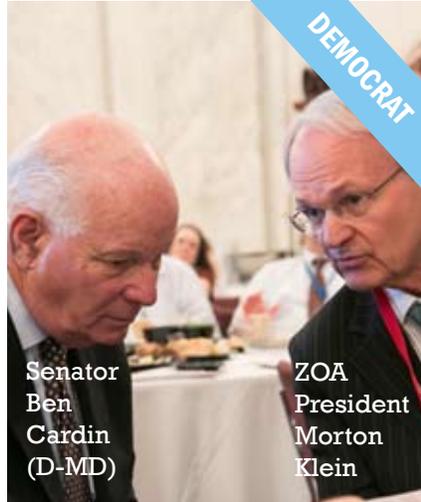
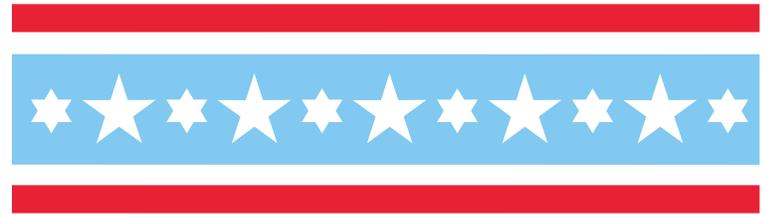




Senator
Tim
Scott
(R-SC)



Senator
Ben
Cardin
(D-MD)
 ZOA
President
Morton
Klein



ZOA ACTIVISTS FOR ISRAEL ON CAPITOL HILL



Cong.
Peter
Roskam
(R-IL)



Cong.
Hakeem
Jeffries
(D-NY)



Senator
Rand Paul
(R-KY)



Senator
Mark
Pryor
(D-AR)

ZOA NATIONAL DINNER NOVEMBER 24, 2013 GRAND HYATT HOTEL, NYC

- 1 MIKE HUCKABEE**
Adelson Award For Pro-Israel Activism
- 2 MYRON ZIMMERMAN**
Louis Brandeis Award
- 3 DR. ANNE BAYEFSKY**
Ben Hecht Award For Outstanding Journalism
- 4 TYLER KORN, ESQ.**
Dr. Irving and Cherna Moskowitz Award
- 5 DR. MIRIAM & SHELDON ADELSON**
Award Presenters
- 6 RABBI SHMULEY BOTEACH**
Dvar Torah
- 7 JAMES S. TISCH**
- 8 KENNETH J. BIALKIN, ESQ.**
Dinner Co-Chairs



IN THIS ISSUE

- ZOA PEOPLE:
DR. BOB SHILLMAN
- CENTER FOR LAW
AND JUSTICE
- GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS
- CAMPUS ACTIVISM
NETWORK
- ISRAEL OFFICE

FALL
2013

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ESTABLISHING A PALESTINIAN STATE IS NOT THE ANSWER

One of the mantras that we hear time and again is that an Arab/Israeli peace can only be achieved by the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. This was the underlying assumption for those who conceived the Oslo peace process. Indeed, we all want the Arab war against Israel to be finally resolved. But is establishing a Palestinian state the answer? The answer is: No — not when the Palestinians' goal is Israel's destruction, as opposed to a Palestinian state living in peace with Israel.

The Oslo assumption was that Palestinians had changed their view on this and were now pragmatic enough to accept Israel, provided they had their own state. Yet, time and again, including since Oslo, this has not proved to be the case.

The truth is that every opportunity the Palestinians had to establish a state was rejected because it meant accepting a Jewish state. The offers they rejected included: a 1937 Peel Commission proposal of a state on 95 percent of what is today all of Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza; in 1947 a division of the land into Jewish and Arab states (U.N. Resolution 181); in 2000 the offer of 97 percent of the West Bank, all of Gaza, and eastern Jerusalem made by U.S. President Bill Clinton and endorsed by Prime Minister Ehud Barak; and in 2008 an offer of 98 percent of the West Bank, eastern Jerusalem, and billions in aid from Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.

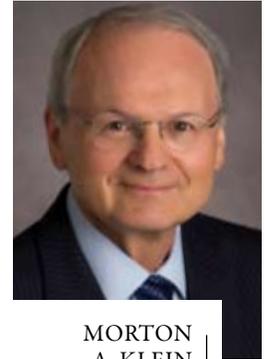
These rejections clearly and painfully show that statehood is not the Palestinians' goal. American Jews now understand this. A recent American Jewish Committee poll shows that 76% of U.S. Jews believe the Palestinians' goal is Israel's destruction, and only 38% support a Palestinian state.

The president of the Palestinian Authority (PA), Mahmoud Abbas, makes his hatred toward Jews and the Jewish state clear. He and other PA officials have proclaimed the rac-

ist, anti-Semitic statement that no Jews will be permitted to live in a Palestinian state, and that Abbas "do[es] not accept a Jewish state; call it what you will." In a U.N. speech, he condemned Israel for "63 years of occupation," meaning all of Israel is illegal, and called Israel the "land of Mohammed and Jesus," denying its Jewish connection. His official emblem shows all of Israel with an Arab headdress over it next to a Kalyshnakov rifle.

In the *New York Times* last year, Abbas openly wrote that a Palestinian state will not lead to peace, but will "internationalize the conflict as a legal matter...paving the way for us to pursue claims against Israel at the U.N. Human Rights Treaty bodies and the International Court of Justice."

Earlier this year, Abbas said he has made "no concessions" and still demands that the 1967 "Auschwitz" lines—as they have been called by Israeli Minister of Tourism Uzi Landau—be ac-



MORTON
A. KLEIN
President,
Zionist
Organization
of America

Abbas openly wrote that a Palestinian state will not lead to peace, but will "internationalize the conflict as a legal matter... paving the way for us to pursue claims against Israel at the U.N. Human Rights Treaty bodies and the International Court of Justice."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

42%

of the West Bank and all of Gaza given by Israel to the Palestinian Authority

99%

of all Palestinians live under the Palestinian Authority

cepted (with minor changes) and that millions of so-called “refugees” be allowed to move into Israel, which would end Israel as a Jewish state.

Are Abbas and the PA presently acting as a democracy creating a civilized, peace-loving society? No. Abbas is a dictator who has not allowed elections for almost nine years. He promotes hate education against Jews and Israel in the media, schools and speeches—such as PA TV recently showing Arab children calling Jews “most evil among creations, barbaric monkeys, wretched pigs.” The PA doesn’t arrest terrorists; doesn’t stop demanding that Israel release terrorists; doesn’t end relations with Hamas; glorifies terrorists and names schools, streets, and sports teams after Jew-killing terrorists; and continues the massive and relentless delegitimization and demonization of Israel.

We also need to understand that a sovereign state doesn’t necessarily create a civil and peace-loving society—it only strengthens the ability of the underlying culture to promote its agenda. Iran, Libya, North Korea, Egypt and Syria are sovereign states. Are they lovely and peaceful?

There is also no demographic issue for Israel if a Palestinian state is not created, since Israel has already given away 42 percent of the West Bank and all of Gaza, where 99 percent of all Palestinians live. Therefore, Palestinians are no longer under Israeli rule, except when it comes to some security issues, and Israel can maintain its Jewish character without the creation of a Palestinian state.

Additionally, if Abbas is acting this way now, when he still has concessions to demand, how will he act when he runs a Palestinian state with no more concessions to demand? No wonder Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel is worried “a Palestinian state will be another Iranian client state that is committed to our destruction,” a state that “arms itself with missiles and rockets.” Remember, Netanyahu said that after Israel left Gaza “and tore up the settlements,” the conflict continued. No wonder Defense Minister Moshe Ya’alon said, “There are those who are trying to market Abbas as relatively moderate, but his goals are the same as Hamas.”

Under prevailing conditions, not only would

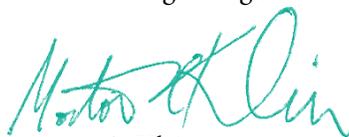
a Palestinian state not bring peace, but Israel would also be truly endangered. No remotely stable and peaceful Palestinian state is even possible when rivals Fatah and Hamas control the West Bank and Gaza, respectively. Hamas might one day topple the Fatah/PA in the West Bank, just as it did in Gaza in 2007. Jerusalem, Ben Gurion airport and 70 percent of Israel’s population would be placed in rocket, mortar and rifle range of Palestinian terrorists, as is the case for Israeli territory adjacent to Hamas-controlled Gaza today—something that has traumatized Israelis in towns like Sderot and which has led to repeated military clashes and bloodshed.

Advocates of Palestinian statehood claim such a state would be demilitarized. But there is no way to ensure that it would be. The Versailles agreement after World War I required Germany to be demilitarized—yet Germany built the most powerful army in Europe. Even a democracy, like Weimar Germany, violated aspects of the peace treaty regarding demilitarization.

The last thing the world needs now is yet another anti-American, anti-Jewish, anti-Christian terrorist dictatorship. Yet that is exactly what a Palestinian state would be, judging by the behavior of the PA during the 20 years since its creation.

Peace doesn’t exist because the Palestinian culture of hatred and violence against Jews and the Jewish state continues unabated, and because, as Prime Minister Netanyahu said, “There is a fervent Palestinian opposition to a Jewish state within any border.” Palestinian statehood won’t resolve these issues. Until these things change, and the Palestinian Arabs accept the right of the Jewish people to have a state, peace will remain elusive.

With Zionist greetings,



Morton A. Klein
National President

DC MISSION A VOICE FOR ISRAEL

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA ANNUAL ADVOCACY MISSION TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

On May 22, hundreds of activists from 16 states across the country, from California to Ohio, to Pennsylvania and Florida, participated in the Zionist Organization of America Annual Advocacy Mission to Washington, D.C. In meetings with over a hundred Members of Congress and their legislative assistants, ZOA activists urged them to support Israel's right to military self-defense against Iran's illegal, threatening nuclear weapons program, impose new comprehensive, robustly-enforced sanctions on Tehran and close loopholes in existing sanctions. Activists also urged legislators to oppose \$650 million in U.S. aid to Mahmoud Abbas' Palestinian Authority (PA) until it fulfils its signed agreements under Oslo to arrest and imprison terrorists, dismantle terrorist groups and end the incitement to hatred and murder within the PA-controlled media, mosques, schools and youth camps; and to recognize Israel as a Jewish state. Additionally, the ZOA urged legislators to support making \$2 billion in U.S. aid to Mohamed Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood-supported regime in Egypt (since overthrown internally) conditional on Cairo observing its 1979 peace treaty with Israel, restricting and even banning further weapons sales to Egypt, stopping incitement against Jews and Israel, affording full rights for women and Christians, and ending Muslim Brotherhood rhetoric that the U.S. will collapse.

At the ZOA's Congressional Luncheon, held prior to the congressional meetings in a magnificent room in the Russell Senate Office Building, ZOA activists were joined at the luncheon by both Democratic and Republican U.S. Senators and House Members, who delivered speeches to the packed audience. Here is a sampling of their comments:

Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD): "ZOA, give yourself a round of applause. The overwhelming majority of Congress didn't come through the Jewish community. And yet we have strong support among Democrats and Re-

publicans and Independents. That doesn't just happen. It happens because you are here, speaking out on what's important...Syria represents a serious problem, not just for the people of Syria but for Israel. Assad must go...The most important security challenge facing us is to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear weapons state... Thanks for helping us show to the American people how important Israel's relationship is to the United States. This relationship strengthens our ability to stand for what is right in the world. Keep up the good work!"

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY): "I was asked before coming here today, 'Why are you going



Steve Plotkin, Philadelphia Director Steve Feldman, Howard Katzoff, Cong. Hakeem Jeffries and Patti Klein



Cong. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Morton Klein



Pastor Mario Bramnick, Head of National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference

DC MISSION



Cong. Charlie Dent (R-PA) with ZOA Mission participants



ZOA President Morton A. Klein introducing Cong. Michele Bachmann (R-MN)

to ZOA?’ I answered, ‘Why? Because ZOA was the only organization that supported my amendment saying no more money and arms to the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt?...Giving F-16 planes and M-1 tanks to them? One day we’re going to regret this...You now have a president in Egypt who says Jews are sons of pigs and apes and a president who stands next to a preacher saying ‘Death to Jews and all their supporters,’ which includes America. If they want our funding, why don’t they affirm their support for the Camp David accord? Why don’t they reaffirm that Israel has a right to exist?...There is one thing I know I can say: You will never see anyone in Israel burning the American flag...the

U.S. and Israel have a great shared religious and cultural history.”

Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) said, “We want you to know that as a committed friend of Israel and an evangelical Christian, I pray for the peace of Jerusalem. I believe in Psalm 22 and the idea that those who help Israel prosper. I want to prosper. I will always be a strong supporter of the state of Israel. It’s my faith, it’s common sense and I will always do so.”

Senator Mark Pryor (D-AK) said that Israel “is our closest ally in the region...I have a good voting record on Israel, because it is our strong interest to see a strong Israel and the relationship between our two countries continue for our mutual defense and security.”

Congresswoman Michele Bachmann (R-MN) said, “The land of Israel is important, the people of Israel are important. For 65 years, we have celebrated the return of the Jews to the land, the terra firma, that G-d promised them... Israel is facing enemies unlike any they have seen, because the Arab Spring has produced new threats on all of Israel’s borders ... We have to send a clear message: If you touch a hair on the head of Israel, you touch every hair on the head of the United States. We are your friends in good times and bad ... The sanctions [on Iran] are a little late in my opinion and Iran is moving closer to nuclear weapons. This is a cocktail we don’t want to see and that no one should ever drink. If there is success in causing Israeli decline or defeat, the United States will very quickly find out what it is to be Israel.”

Congressman Rob Andrews (D-NJ) addressed in stark terms the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran. “I don’t believe the leadership in the Iranian government is suicidal but they are strategic in what they do. It’s not that they will necessarily fire a missile with a nuclear warhead once they get one. They’d hand it off to a terrorist in Kuwait, who’d hand it over to another in Germany, who’d then pass it on to someone in Kuwait, who would then fly into JFK airport. When the bomb goes off, the Iranians will say that Americans got what they deserved, but that ‘we didn’t do it.’ And can you imagine if our intelligence says, ‘Mr. President, we’re 95% sure it came from Iran. Are you going to give the or-

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der to drop nuclear weapons?’ I’m not so sure... The Iranians assess the situation and have come to this conclusion. The U.S. has the means to stop the problem but not the will. The Israelis have the will, but not the means...Here is what I think we should do, inspired by FDR’s lend-lease of arms to Britain during World War Two when America wouldn’t get involved in the war in Europe: lend Israel the weapons to do it...I’m asking you today, and I have made this request at the very highest levels, it will take more than that, Republicans and Democrats, to say that this will be the policy of the United States of America. If you insist on developing a weapon of mass destruction, we will support of our friend and ally stopping you.”

Congressman Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) said, “Israel is a wonderful country with a great cosmopolitan culture...In the 2008 rocket assaults, I had the chance to spend time in Sderot and Ashkelon, and my colleagues and I experienced first-hand the count-down to a missile hit...I had meaningful conversations with a high-ranking member of the Israeli Foreign Ministry who told me that ‘Hakeem, we live in a tough neighborhood.’ It was such a simple and elegant and comprehensive statement of what the great state of Israel confronts...We must do everything we can to stand up for our ally, Israel, for their defense, their qualitative military advantage. We must stop Iran from its nuclear aspirations. I will do whatever I can do to see that happens, whatever I can do to see that strategically vital relationship with Israel continues.”

Louie Gohmert (R-TX) addressed the scope of the Iranian nuclear threat, observing that the Iranian regime would soon “have enough material to make several [nuclear bombs] before they make even one...Then they can immediately disperse them and then no one can be sure they’ll get them all in an attack—and then they can strike Israel.” Regarding the frigidity of the Obama Administration towards Israel, he said, “If you study history, one thing becomes clear—When a regime like Iran sees their strongest enemy holding Israel at a distance, it’s provocative. This emboldened, for example, the Turks to send the Gaza flotilla...There are dangers and consequences of putting daylight between our-

selves and Israel...I’d vote to give \$3 billion, \$6 billion, \$9 billion or \$12 billion to Israel...More sanctions are worthless, Iran breathes a sigh of relief when we promote new sanctions. It sends a message to them that we’re not going to use military action against them.”

Trent Franks (R-AZ): “A lot of people talk of how important the U.S. is to Israel but can I tell you how Israel is important to the U.S.... There have been some wonderful things, the amazing progress on Iron Dome has put a new face on missile defense. I worked very hard to make sure we have continued support for the Arrow-3 missile...I truly believe that as long as America stands with Israel it will be important to the peace and security of the world...It is also very important to restrict Palestinian Authority funding based on what the PA does, as it is also in the case of Egypt and the Muslim Brotherhood...Israel is the toughest friend on the block, and we’re not going to foresake them. G-d bless you all.”

Congressman Paul Broun (R-GA): “I am a Bible-believing Evangelical Christian and I have been described as—and I have embraced the term—a Zionist Christian. The reason I do this is because I believe what my Bible said—we have the same Bible, we just have a few extra books—and I am an ardent supporter of the nation of Israel. In fact, the modern state of Israel was born on my birthday on May 14, 1948, so we’re the same age...our father Abraham—I consider myself an adopted Jew—Abraham got a visit from G-d and was told: ‘Pack up and move to

Cong. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) said, “The land of Israel is important, the people of Israel are important. For 65 years, we have celebrated the return of the Jews to the land, the terra firma, that G-d promised them...”



Cong. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Board Member Rubin Margules

DC MISSION

a land that is going to belong to you for all eternity. I'm going to make your seed as numerous as the stars in the sky'...G-d gave the land title to the Jewish people and it should never ever be taken away. And G-d gave us the boundary of that land of Canaan, in the Torah, saying that 'I will bless those who bless you and curse those that curse you'...Some of our opponents say that they're going to get rid of all the Judeo-Christian values that got into the Constitution, all those values that have made this country so great. G-d's blessings on this country today are because we bless Israel, and it must never cease. I



Cong. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) with delegates and ZOA Board Member James Pollack (right)

believe very firmly, our country pressured Israel to give up Gaza. I was totally against that. We have a President who says we must go back to pre-war borders; I think Israel should go all the way to the Jordan River. I don't say so—G-d says so. The capital should be in Jerusalem and our U.S. embassy should be in Jerusalem...We should also give Jerusalem every single bunker-busting bomb they need...Recently we saw three very critical people [Chuck Hagel, John Brennan and John Kerry] nominated to critical positions in the Administration. If I had been in the Senate, I would have voted no to Chuck Hagel, and no to John Brennan, and no to John Kerry...We've not done enough in the sanctions on Iran, nor have we done enough to support the freedom-seeking people in that country...As long as I'm

here in Washington, I'll do everything I can to make sure that the United States is supporting Israel."

Congressman Greg Walden (R-OR): "Mort, I want to thank you for your long term leadership of this organization – Well done!...Systems developed in Israel knocked down impressive amounts of incoming missiles from Hamas in Gaza. This is a very important system. Iran is building weapons that can wipe Israel off the face of the planet. That cannot be allowed to continue. We must build on existing sanctions to tighten the screws on Iran. Together we'll make sure that Israel is safe and secure and America as well."

Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick (R-PA) spoke of the bill he introduced to cut \$500 million in U.S. aid to Egypt and to redirect it towards tuition for U.S. armed forces personnel. "We can't justify giving money to Egypt when our own servicemen and women are suffering funding cuts to their tuition so I said, 'Let's take that \$500 million right there.'"

Congressman Peter Roskam (R-IL): "Paul Johnson is a great historian, who wrote *A History of the Jews*. In the introduction, there is, he says, one group in history that has insisted that history has meaning. This claim to land and heritage are the foundation on which many Western virtues are founded. It is to be celebrated and defended. You are working for just that and I want you to be encouraged today."

Congressman Tim Huelskamp (R-KS) said that "the pro-Israel feeling people have here is genuine because, apart from anything else, support of Israel is in the best interest of America's foreign policy...As a loyal American, it is my duty to speak up for Israel and help build and defend the special relationship between us."

Billy Long (R-MO) opened by thanking ZOA "for the work you do because your work is extremely important...I back Israel, not because it is the right thing to do, but because it is the only thing to do...I am committed to getting every Member of Congress to visit Israel, because it is in visiting Israel that the strategic realities of the country become apparent to anyone who looks...People need to understand that Iran is not only a threat to Israel but a threat to the

DC MISSION

United States.”

Also addressing the Mission during the luncheon was Pastor Mario Bramnick, a member of the Board of Directors of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Council (NHCLC), the largest Hispanic Christian organization in the country, with over 15 million members and thousands of churches across the country. Pastor Bramnick told the assembled activists, “At the NHCLC, you should know that Israel is one of our major initiatives...On November 18, we will be out in force on Capitol Hill lobbying for the nation of Israel...We are seconds away from a nuclear Iran, we have the Muslim Brotherhood in control of Egypt and infiltrating our Administration. There is a global movement to delegitimize Israel in the world today. It is 1938 all over again. No other nation has been told by the world that you can’t build apartments in their own capital city...The land of Israel has been given to Israel as an eternal covenant from G-d himself...Sometimes we get discouraged and feel as if we are like David against Goliath, that we are in the minority, but the truth is that we are standing with G-d and those who are the apple of G-d’s eye.”

ZOA National President Morton A. Klein also addressed the crowd, describing in detail the recent findings of a new official Israeli commission of inquiry, which show that the Palestinian teenage boy, Muhammad al-Dura, had not been killed by Israeli fire in September 2000 and that the whole story of his death on that day was a Palestinian-staged fabrication. Klein said, “This is one of the great blood libels of Jewish history. As a result of [this] fabricated news report, Israel was subjected to waves of international criticism and innumerable acts of anti-Semitic violence occurred around the globe...Abbas’ Palestinian Authority television has repeatedly aired a film showing al-Dura in heaven, beckoning other Palestinian children to ‘martyr’ themselves by becoming terrorists so that they can join him in paradise. Postage stamps showing the famous scene of al-Dura crouching next to his father appeared in countries throughout the Middle East; schools and streets were named after him, and when *Wall Street Journal’s* Daniel Pearl was murdered on video, a picture of al-Dura was on

the wall behind. The Israeli Orr Commission said al-Dura’s alleged killing by Israel was a major factor in initiating the campaign of terror and suicide bombings that erupted against Israel in the year 2000 ... Blood libels against Israel are Palestinian stock-in-trade which need to be convincingly exposed. These propaganda lies clearly show that the Palestinian Arabs’ goal is not a Palestinian state, but the delegitimization and demonization of the country, which will weaken its international support, promoting their ultimate goal of eliminating the Jewish state of Israel. If Palestinians truly wanted their own state, they would have accepted offers of such a state in 1937, 1947, 2000 and 2008. But they rejected every such offer ... Now that the truth about al-Dura is known, Israel should hold a major press conference, complete with detailed graphics and forensic evidence on display, to state the truth loudly and clearly and to dispel the propaganda lies that have been spun about the alleged death of Muhammad al-Dura.”

Klein further stated that, “It is absurd that the Arab peace initiative is being promoted by Secretary of State Kerry and the Arab world, which requires Israel to return to the indefensible 1949 armistice lines (with minor swaps) and which includes Israel giving away all of eastern Jerusalem to the Palestinians and the entire Golan Heights to Syria. It also requires Israel to permit millions of so-called refugees to move into Israel, to establish a Palestinian state and, only after Israel does all that, will the Arabs consider normalizing relations with Israel, but not accepting Israel as a Jewish state.” [ZOA](#)

***Cong. Greg Walden (R-OR):
“Mort, I want to thank you for your long term leadership of this organization – Well done!... Systems developed in Israel knocked down impressive amounts of incoming missiles from Hamas in Gaza. This is a very important system.”***



Cong. Rob Andrews (D-NJ) with delegates

LAW AND JUSTICE

CENTER FOR

U.S. GOVERNMENT ISN'T ENFORCING FEDERAL LAW TO PROTECT JEWISH STUDENTS

The new school year is now underway and parents of Jewish college students have reason to worry: Anti-Semitism is a serious problem on some college campuses, causing Jewish students to feel threatened and even fear for their safety. Yet the U.S. government is not enforcing the law to protect them.

Legal protection exists, at least in theory. After a six-year battle by the ZOA and others, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued a 2010 policy that Title VI of the Civil Rights Act would be enforced to protect Jewish students (and students of other religious/ethnic groups) who are harassed at publicly-funded schools.

But OCR isn't enforcing the policy, thereby undermining Jewish students' legal right to a safe and non-hostile campus environment.

In one clean sweep, OCR recently dismissed three Title VI cases filed on behalf of Jewish students. All three relate to unrelenting anti-Semitism on University of California campuses, which university officials had largely ignored.

In the case filed by the ZOA against UC Irvine, Jewish students were physically threatened and assaulted. One student was surrounded by Arab students who cursed and threatened, "I am going to kill you, you f__king Jewish bitch." Another Jewish student endured screams of "Go back to Russia where you came from," "Burn in hell," and "F__king Jew." A Holocaust memorial was vandalized. Posters obscenely proclaimed that "Zionism is Nazism" and equated the Star of David with the swastika. A huge sign on the main walkway said, "Israelis Love to Kill Innocent Children." The Israeli flag was displayed dripping with blood. Speakers regularly vilified Jews and Israel, comparing Jews to Satan and referring to them as "the new Nazis." These anti-Semites spoke from the center of campus, their speeches amplified, so they were virtually

impossible to avoid.

Courageous Jewish students came forward and described these and other horrific incidents to OCR investigators. Students said they were afraid to openly express they were Jewish or pro-Israel. Some stayed away from campus, feeling isolated, unwelcome and afraid. Two former students told OCR that they left Irvine and transferred elsewhere because they could no longer endure the hostility.

Students also told OCR that they repeatedly tried to get university officials to address the problems, to no avail. One student wrote to administrators, demanding that her physical safety be protected. The only official who responded suggested that she visit the counseling center, as if she were the problem!

Given the evidence, it's almost impossible to understand how OCR could conclude that Jewish students' right to a safe and non-hostile campus environment had not been violated. But OCR did just that, in a cursory one-page letter.

OCR's contemporaneous dismissal of the Title VI cases against UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz is also troubling. At Berkeley, a Jewish student was holding a sign that said "Israel Wants Peace" when she was rammed from behind with a loaded shopping cart by someone with a known history of anti-Jewish incitement and intimidation. The student required medical attention. Jewish students were subjected to mock checkpoints, where anti-Israel students – dressed as Israeli soldiers and holding fake guns (itself a legal violation) – blocked the walkway, stopping students to ask if they were Jewish before deciding whether to let them pass. Administrators took no action when Jewish students repeatedly complained about feeling threatened and afraid.

At Santa Cruz, Jewish students were subjected to anti-Semitic hostility in the classroom



SUSAN
TUCHMAN
Director,
Center for Law
and Justice

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

that the university itself was promoting. Professors and academic departments funded and sponsored one-sided anti-Israel programs, and discouraged students from learning about perspectives that weren't anti-Israel. One professor violated university rules by tearing down flyers announcing an event about Palestinian children being trained as suicide bombers. Despite numerous complaints, the university refused to address the hostile environment.

OCR's indifference to anti-Semitism on the UC campuses is a far cry from how the government has responded to incidents targeting other minorities. For instance, after acts hostile to African-Americans at UC San Diego, OCR and the Justice Department initiated an investigation on their own – even though university officials had already investigated the incidents and issued public condemnations, and perpetrators were held accountable.

OCR's failure to enforce Title VI to protect Jewish students may be a response to forceful pressure from outside groups who falsely claim that the rank anti-Semitism on campus is legitimate political discourse, and that enforcing Title VI to remedy a hostile environment for Jewish students will unconstitutionally stifle protected speech.

Let us be clear that Title VI is not being used to silence criticism of Israel. Students are com-

plaining about threats and assaults, about vandalism, and about the promotion of Nazi-like propaganda lies about Jews and Israel, inside and outside the classroom. Students object to denials of Israel's right to exist and calls for its destruction. These are all manifestations of anti-Semitism, according to the U.S. government's own standards.

Let us also be clear that no one is calling for the suppression of free speech. We have consistently urged university officials to exercise their own free speech rights to publicly condemn anti-Semitic incidents, as well as the perpetrators. We know from years of working with Jewish students that their colleges' silence in response to anti-Semitism is as hurtful as the anti-Semitism itself, because it sends the message that demonizing Jews and Israel is acceptable and will be tolerated.

The ZOA will continue to press our government to take campus anti-Semitism seriously and to vigorously enforce Title VI, so that publicly-funded colleges will stop tolerating a hostile learning environment for Jewish students. The ZOA will continue to stand up for the rights of Jewish students – their right to feel physically and emotionally safe on their college campuses, and their right to proudly say and show that they are Jewish and love and support the Jewish State of Israel, without fear of negative consequences.

ZOA CALLS ON NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY TO REMEDY ANTI-SEMITIC HOSTILITY IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

In July 2013, the ZOA wrote to Joseph Aoun, president of Northeastern University, urging that the university finally remedy the harassment and intimidation that Jewish students have been subjected to for years. The ZOA's letter was based on first-hand reports from students and it documented their experiences in detail.

For example, in a course taught by Denis Sullivan, the director of Northeastern's Middle

East Center, Professor Sullivan was promoting a so-called "one-state solution" to the Palestinian Arab-Israeli conflict. A Jewish student raised her hand to ask a legitimate question – what this "solution" would mean for Jews living in Israel. Instead of answering the question, Professor Sullivan personally attacked the student, as the rest of the class snickered. The student was so traumatized by the attack that she began crying and had to leave the room.

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Another Jewish student described being in a class taught by Professor Sullivan where he lectured about why the terrorist group Hamas should be given legitimacy. He directed his students to write a paper reflecting on the lecture. The Jewish student completed the assignment appropriately, taking a position different from Sullivan's. She wrote – consistent with U.S. government policy – that Hamas, as a foreign terrorist organization, cannot be given legitimacy. Sullivan rejected her paper and threatened her with a poor grade unless she rewrote it. The student refused and received a low grade, simply for taking a position that did not support the professor's personal agenda.

Students reported that one Northeastern professor not only made false and demonizing accusations against Jews and Israel, but also

bragged about how students are now too intimidated to speak up and challenge his views. In one lecture, Professor M. Shahid Alam accused “Zionist partisans” and “partisans of Israel”—code for Jews—of “trying to shut out the daylight, the daylight of truth about Zionism, about Israel and the hostility of these two and their crimes against humanity, the war crimes. Their brutality, their massacre, their ethnic cleansing.” Alam also outrageously told students in his lecture that Israelis’ “whole life depends upon defending lies. They have to defend lies.”

Alam also bragged about the hostile environment in his classes, where pro-Israel students are now afraid to speak up: “If there are one or two people who want to say something, they don't because they can sense that they will get no support from the class.” Alam actually embraced claims that he is anti-Semitic and encouraged students to follow in his footsteps: “You know we should really laugh away accusations of anti-Semitism. It has now become laughable. And there may come a time when you wear that label as a mark of distinction.”

A Jewish student present during Alam's lecture was horrified by what he heard and wrote to President Aoun and several other university officials, stating:

“I sat painfully listening to Professor Alam insinuate, that students should be proud to be called anti-semitic. I had never in my life, ever, experienced anti-semitism first hand until this past year when I witnessed Professor Alam and Professor Sullivan display an age old hatred against the Jewish people. . . . I now unfortunately can understand what bigotry really is, and it is absolutely not something that I ever wanted or needed to experience. No one should have to experience hatred like this in their learning environment.”

This student implored the university to take action, writing that “this is about doing the right thing and steering the University in the right course. This is about saying that Jewish students are protected just like any other individual on campus. This is about saying that every student



Northeastern University, Robert J. Shillman Hall

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on campus is equal and shall be treated with the utmost respect.”

The only university official who bothered to reply did not acknowledge any wrongdoing by Professor Alam. Instead, he justified Alam’s comments as “academic freedom.”

But as the ZOA wrote to President Aoun, “[a]cademic freedom does not mean that anything goes, that professors like Alam are free to promote the hatred of Jews and Israel, at the expense of Jewish students’ well-being and their academic freedom. It is reprehensible that any administrator would try to justify Alam’s bigotry. Bigotry is never tolerable, on a college campus or anywhere else.”

The ZOA’s letter was met with silence, as was a follow-up letter to President Aoun.

On August 14, 2013, *The Jewish Advocate*, the major Jewish newspaper in Boston, pub-

lished an op-ed which described the ZOA’s letter as “expos[ing] with intense moral clarity the stark failure of Jewish leaders and American educational institutions to keep Jewish students safe from a hostile environment.” The op-ed proclaimed that the ZOA’s letter should serve as “a clarion call for all Jews and people of conscience to speak out.”

Shortly thereafter, the ADL sent a letter to President Aoun, urging that “the assertions catalogued in ZOA’s recent letter cannot, and should not, be dismissed,” and that they be investigated and reported on promptly. But Northeastern continued to avoid addressing the problems, issuing a statement claiming that the allegations are “unsubstantiated,” and justifying the anti-Semitic harassment and intimidation as “the vigorous exchange of disparate ideas.”

GOVERNMENT AGREES TO INVESTIGATE ZOA ALLEGATIONS OF ANTI-SEMITISM AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE

In July 2013, the ZOA filed a complaint against Brooklyn College, under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, with the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR). The complaint described troubling reports from Jewish students that they are being subjected to a hostile campus environment, particularly in the political science department. Prior to filing the complaint, the ZOA – and students – had repeatedly reached out to college officials in an effort to remedy the problems. These efforts were fruitless.

In February 2013, over the objections of students and others, the political science department co-sponsored a program calling for boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel. The department ignored requests that an anti-BDS point of view be included in the program. Nor did the department guarantee that it would ever sponsor an anti-BDS program, or even a pro-Israel program.

At the BDS program, four Jewish students

were wrongfully ejected. One was a well-known pro-Israel activist on campus who asked tough but respectful questions at anti-Israel events. Two of the ousted students were obviously Jewish, wearing kippahs. An official investigation of what occurred later confirmed that there was no justification for the removal of the four students. The investigation also confirmed that



East Quad of Brooklyn College

there were a number of public safety officers, administrators, and faculty present at the event. But not one of them intervened when the four Jewish students were ousted by an anti-Israel activist who was a complete outsider to Brooklyn College.

In a September 2013 letter, OCR informed the ZOA that the agency would be opening an investigation into what occurred at the anti-BDS program. OCR also offered the parties the opportunity to consider engaging in mediation to resolve the allegations.

APPELLATE COURT'S DISAPPOINTING DECISION: STATE DEPARTMENT NEED NOT COMPLY WITH LAW PERMITTING "ISRAEL" ON PASSPORTS OF JERUSALEM-BORN U.S. CITIZENS

In a decision on July 23, 2013, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia refused to uphold the right of American citizens born in Jerusalem to have Israel listed as their birthplace on their passports and other official documents, in accordance with a 2002 federal law. Before this law was passed, these documents listed "Jerusalem" only, with no country of birth. The Court of Appeals held that the law was unconstitutional because it "impermissibly intrudes" on the president's foreign affairs powers.

The case before the court was filed by Ari and Naomi Zivotofsky, American citizens whose son Menachem was born in Jerusalem in 2002, soon after the law was passed. They wanted Menachem's passport to reflect that he was born in Israel, but their request was denied. The ZOA filed a similar complaint on behalf of another American born in Jerusalem, whose case was consolidated with the Zivotofskys'.

The Zivotofsky case went up to the Supreme Court and then back to the Court of Appeals, and the ZOA filed *amicus* (friend of the court) briefs with both courts in support of the Zivotofsky family's claims. In the briefs, the ZOA provided example after example of the many departments and agencies in the Executive Branch—including the State Department—that have routinely referred to Jerusalem as part of the State of Israel,

without any evident impact on foreign policy. The ZOA argued that it was difficult to conceive of how listing Israel on a passport would impermissibly infringe on foreign policy or on any of the president's foreign policy powers.

The ZOA's brief also showed that the State Department's policies and practices for issuing passports are irrational, arbitrary and even offensive when it comes to Israel. The Department generally requires that the country with current sovereignty over a citizen's birthplace should be listed on the citizen's passport, regardless of when the birth occurred. But for U.S. citizens born in Tel Aviv or Haifa, for instance—cities that are indisputably under Israeli sovereignty—the State Department will overlook its policy and defer to a citizen's preference *not* to identify with Israel, by listing the city as the birthplace instead. Unfairly, the State Department was refusing to honor the preferences of Americans born in Jerusalem who want to identify with Israel by listing it as their birthplace.

The ZOA was the only Jewish organization to take formal legal action to enforce the Jerusalem passport law. Ari and Naomi Zivotofsky expressed their intention to seek Supreme Court review of the Court of Appeals' decision, and the ZOA will continue to support their efforts. [ZOA](#)

“IF THEY FIND OUT I’M JEWISH, THEY’LL TARGET ME.”

BY: ILYA FEOKTISTOV AND CHARLES JACOBS

THE JEWISH ADVOCATE

AUGUST 14, 2013

This is one of a litany of chilling claims by Jewish students at Northeastern University about the anti-Semitic hostility they have been forced to deal with on campus, as quoted in a letter recently sent by the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) to Northeastern’s President Joseph Aoun. First alerted by our organization’s exposés of the university’s hostile climate for Jews, the ZOA’s own investigation has gone much further to lift the curtain on what Jewish students can expect to face if they enroll at Northeastern.

ZOA’s letter, based on first-hand reports from students, shows that the problem at Northeastern is not simply a case of professorial academic bias against Israel. Northeastern’s professors are using the basest forms of social bullying and intimidation to silence Jewish students who dare defend their Jewish identity in the classroom.

According to ZOA’s investigation, Professor Denis Sullivan, Director of the university’s Middle East Center, goes furthest in abusing his authority in the classroom to violate his students’ academic freedom. Here are some vignettes from what the students told ZOA about Sullivan’s lack of academic ethics in class:

“A Jewish student in the class raised her hand and asked a legitimate question... Instead of answering the question, Professor Sullivan personally attacked the student, as the rest of the class snickered. ...She was so traumatized by the attack that she began crying and had to leave the room.”

“According to one Jewish student, when you question what Sullivan tells the class about Israel, Sullivan ‘finds a way to make you feel stupid.’”

A Jewish student wrote a paper taking the

position that Hamas, with its genocidal goals, cannot be given legitimacy. “Professor Sullivan rejected the student’s paper and threatened her with a poor grade unless she rewrote it ... The Jewish student felt that she had no choice but to rewrite her paper.”

“One student reported that he is afraid even to reveal his Jewish identity in Sullivan’s class.”

When a Jewish student questioned the anti-Israel position of a visiting Palestinian diplomat Sullivan brought as a guest to his class, “Professor Sullivan publicly ridiculed the student.” The diplomat “refused to answer the question, characterizing it as offensive.”

Sadly, Sullivan is not the only Northeastern professor who has victimized Jewish students, according to the ZOA:

“When a Jewish student respectfully challenged” Northeastern Sociology and International Affairs Professor Berna Turam’s justification of Islamic honor killings during class, “Professor Turam – and the other students in the class – laughed at the student, humiliating her. On another occasion, Professor Turam laughed at and publicly mocked this same student as she presented her research proposal in class ... Strangely, Professor Turam repeatedly referred to this student as “Rachel” – a Hebrew name – despite being told that this is not the student’s name. This student stopped wearing her Star of David to Professor Turam’s class.”

Readers of this column will have heard by now about Northeastern’s Economics Professor and Pakistani citizen M. Shahid Alam, who was caught on video telling students that anti-Semitism is something that one should be proud of and bragging about intimidating pro-Israel students in his classes. As the ZOA’s investigation revealed, in an e-mail to Northeastern’s Presi-



Professor Denis Sullivan



Professor Berna Turam

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

“I sat painfully listening to professor Alam insinuate that students should be proud to be called anti-semitic. I had never in my life, ever, experienced anti-semitism firsthand until this past year when I witnessed professor alam and professor sullivan display an age-old hatred against the jewish people...”

dent Joseph Aoun, a Jewish student personally recounted his feelings in response to hearing Alam’s hateful words:

“I sat painfully listening to Professor Alam insinuate that students should be proud to be called anti-Semitic. I had never in my life, ever, experienced anti-Semitism firsthand until this past year when I witnessed Professor Alam and Professor Sullivan display an age-old hatred against the Jewish people...No one should experience hatred like this in their learning environment.”

Aoun never did respond to the Jewish student, although his cold shoulder was better than the treatment other Jewish students got from campus administrators. At a seminar on campus inclusiveness held by the President’s Council on Diversity and Inclusion, a Jewish student spoke up about how marginalized he and other Jews felt on campus. As the ZOA recounts, “Interim Dean Uta G. Poiger publicly embarrassed the student. Instead of showing compassion for the problems that he and other Jewish students have been enduring at Northeastern, Dean Poiger questioned the veracity of Jewish students’ campus experiences and thereby publicly demeaned them and their concerns.”

The responses of other campus administrators to the issue have been disappointingly similar, according to the ZOA. For example, Northeastern Provost Stephen Director has said that claims of anti-Semitic incidents on campus “are completely unfounded, and we reject them. The present-day facts are clear: Northeastern is fully supportive of Jewish life and learning.”

The former President of the American Jewish Committee of Boston, Larry Lowenthal, who is now on Northeastern’s payroll, went so far as to defend the Professor Sullivan:

“As an Adjunct Professor in the Jewish Studies program at Northeastern University, I wish to offer some personal comments on the controversy surrounding Professor Denis Sullivan ... At all times, Sullivan treated me and my views with dignity, sensitivity and deep respect. In my personal experience, Northeastern has provided an open, unhindered and stimulating environment for the expression of Jewish and Zionist points of view.”

And perhaps most disappointing has been the reaction of Lori Lefkowitz, the Chair of Northeastern’s Jewish Studies Department. She has refused to acknowledge any problem, stating that: “I am sorry that there are those who are unsatisfied with an accounting of the present state of Jewish life and learning at the school.” She claimed that concerns about anti-Semitism on campus are “designed to put us on the defensive and to make the Jewish community less supportive of Northeastern at precisely the moment when Northeastern deserves kudos and the strong support of Jews who care about Jewish campus life.”

Lefkowitz invited Professor Sullivan to speak at Congregation Mishkan Tefila in Newton, where her husband is the Rabbi.

Jewish leaders naturally want to claim that there is no hostility toward Jewish students within their spaces of influence, yet this only abets the further marginalization of those students. Faced with undeniable proof that they’re wrong, they are caught in a trap. Admitting that there is a problem would raise questions about their lack of response in the past and in the present. Denial allows them to avoid stressful conflict with those among their fellow professors who abuse Jewish students, and with the administration, which refuses to stop the abuse. The abandonment of Jewish students on campus is a massive scandal that has not yet been entirely exposed. Northeastern University exemplifies the ugly atmosphere that makes being a pro-Israel Jewish student so difficult on today’s campuses.

ZOA’s letter to Aoun exposes with intense moral clarity the stark failure of Jewish leaders and American educational institutions to keep Jewish students safe from a hostile environment. It should be a clarion call for all Jews and people of conscience to speak out in condemning this failure. Only consistent and unyielding pressure will protect Jewish youth from hatred. 

Ilya Feoktistov and Charles Jacobs are Research Director and President, respectively, of Americans for Peace and Tolerance

Zionist Organization of America

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Morton A. Klein

ZOA President



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GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT RELATIONS



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FOCUSED AND EVER VIGILANT

As the situation across the Middle East continues to deteriorate and the United States continues to dither in its policies there, the ZOA agenda in our nation's capital remains focused and ever vigilant. Although the so-called "peace process" has been given an unlikely kick-start by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, the most pressing issue continues to be Iran. Other priorities include ending unconditional aid to the Palestinian Authority (PA), preventing US aid from going to Muslim Brotherhood (MB) groups including the MB in Egypt and Hamas, support for the moving of the US embassy to Jerusalem, and working with the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice to guarantee the protection of Jewish students under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

The last few months have seen Congressional action and reaction to the efforts of the Obama Administration to contain the situation in Egypt, to display general confusion about vital US interests in Syria, and, most importantly, to use diplomacy and sanctions in order to pressure Iran. We at ZOA, and our like-minded allies, continue the struggle to remind policymakers that time is running out to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons capability.

Since the last round of sanctions against Iran

were passed into law, Congressional efforts to tighten the noose and close the loopholes have been contending with spotty enforcement by the Administration. Unfortunately, all indications are that economic difficulties will not be decisive in persuading the Iranian regime to change course on its desire to achieve a nuclear military capability. One of the sanctions bills ZOA activists urged their Representatives to pass during the annual Mission to Washington in the spring was passed by the House just prior to departing for the August recess

The whole approach of using diplomacy and sanctions to attempt to induce the Iranian regime to change course would, obviously, be tremendously strengthened if it were backed by a credible threat of force as a last resort. Instead, the Obama Administration has sought to downplay any such "saber rattling" while simultaneously granting economic sanction waivers to every major country that has sought them. ZOA has been directly involved in working with members of Congress to try to stiffen the US's overall approach to Iranian atomic weapons development and has been instrumental in making it clear to the Administration that Congress is carefully watching the way sanctions are enforced.

The changes in the Arab world that optimists began calling the "Arab Spring," have revealed themselves to be a turbulent transition to Islamist control of most of the Arab world. American policy towards the government in Egypt remains very confused. ZOA has been a loud and clear voice demanding that the U.S. stop cozying up to the MB around the region. The continuation of US aid to Egypt is treated by the Executive branch as though it were a virtual policy whim. It is not often appreciated that the opposition in Jordan is also affiliated with the Brotherhood, and both the Egyptian and Jordanian branches have close ties to Hamas, which is the Palestinian branch of the same organization.

Efforts to create a Palestinian Arab state continue. Despite the ongoing total absence of any signs of relevance of the Israeli-Palestinian Arab "peace process" to resolving any of the region's problems, despite voluminous evidence of radi-

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

calism and of anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement to violence and hatred by the Palestinian Authority (PA), despite the clear evidence that the Palestinian Arabs are not, and have never been, interested in a peaceful, conflict-ending resolution, and despite the geographic, ideological and political gaps that remain between the non-moderate, pro-terror Fatah, which controls the PA, and the Islamist, pro-terror Hamas which controls Gaza, politicians from both parties in Washington continue to promote Palestinian Arab statehood in Judea and Samaria and are actively supporting Secretary of State John Kerry's latest efforts. ZOA remains the only credible voice on Capitol Hill trying to stop the flow of US financial and material aid to the PA and to halt the mistaken and misguided US-Israeli effort to create a Palestinian Arab terrorist state out of Judea and Samaria.

ZOA continues to push legislative efforts to set further conditions on continued U.S. aid to the PA and ultimately to end them for the PA's ongoing non-compliance with its many "peace" agreements with Israel. The conventional wisdom is that the U.S. retains influence over the PA because of this assistance, but the truth is that the Palestinian Arabs have come to believe that they will be made to pay no price for their actions, no matter how embarrassing or difficult it may be for the United States.

As part of an ongoing effort to buttress the legitimacy of Jewish life in Judea and Samaria and further combat anti-Israel propaganda, ZOA's Government Relations Department played a key role in a meeting and roundtable discussion hosted by the House Republican Conference featuring Dani Dayan, Chief Foreign Envoy and former Chairman of the YESHA Council, the umbrella organization representing the Jewish population in Judea and Samaria. Participants included Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee Ed Royce (R-CA), and several House Republican leaders, ZOA's National President Morton Klein, and representatives from other American Jewish organizations.

In his remarks, Dani Dayan observed that the conventional wisdom about the Jewish communities in YESHA (Judea and Samaria) have not correctly recorded his own experiences, and

in particular the positive role the communities play in establishing positive relationships with Arab residents of those strategic regions.

To illustrate the two reasons to pursue a Jewish presence in the hills of the historic Jewish heartland, Dayan spoke of two windows in his home. Out of one window he sees the coastal plain of Israel, spread out towards the Mediterranean Sea, which points to the tremendous strategic importance of Jewish communities. Out of the second window he sees the hills where all of Jewish history and the stories of our people played out. He said that this historical and spiritual motivation for living in Judea and Samaria is actually the stronger motivation.

One of the benefits of this type of meeting was the direct interaction between ZOA's leadership and the Senior leadership of the House of Representatives. Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Ed Royce (R-CA) launched a forceful critique of the PA's incitement against Jews and Israel, pointing out that this is being spread in their schools, mosques, media, speeches and children's camps. He made it very clear that this incitement makes the possibility of peace very difficult. Rep. Royce also spoke about his own father, a PFC in a U.S. Army unit that liberated the Dachau concentration camp in 1945 and took photos for the public record of what they found. When the Congressman visited Ramallah as part of a Congressional delegation two years ago, he confronted PA President Mahmoud Abbas about his own record of denying the Holocaust. Rep. Royce even noted that Abbas has a Ph.D equivalent from the Patrice Lumumba University in Moscow, where his dissertation focused on Holocaust revisionism. Rep. Royce was able to share his father's personal testimony to challenge Abbas's hateful narrative, and the leader of the PA sheepishly agreed to move on to discuss the future instead of the past. Rep. Royce strongly reiterated the problems and dangers of PA incitement against Jews and Israel and how the PA must be held accountable.

ZOA's National President Morton Klein was undoubtedly the most dynamic speaker at this meeting. In his brief remarks, he effectively covered almost every ZOA talking point, beginning with the Fatah Poster they commissioned

The changes in the Arab world that optimists began calling the 'Arab Spring,' have revealed themselves to be a turbulent transition to Islamist control of most of the Arab world.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT



Capitol Building Chamber

for the 48th anniversary of the founding of the terrorist group. The poster shows all of Israel covered in a kaffieh, and also contains symbols including a Kalashnikov assault rifle and keys symbolizing the supposed right to “return” to homes in Israeli cities. Morton Klein used this poster, as well as a similar one celebrating Fatah’s 45th anniversary, as launching points to discuss PA incitement and the true issue in the Arab war against Israel and Jews: the Palestinian inability to accept a Jewish state with any borders. Until this situation changes, he pointed out, any solution to the conflict will fail, no matter what concessions Israel makes. Mr. Klein also pointed out that as the child of survivors, Holocaust denial by Abbas is particularly repugnant.

Earlier in the year, the ZOA was the only Jewish organization with a lobbying presence in Washington, DC to actively oppose the nominations of Chuck Hagel, Samantha Power, and John Brennan to policy making positions in the Obama Administration. Our Government Relations Department, as well as our National President, Morton Klein, met with staffers to every key Senator and made the objections to the nominations impossible to ignore. The

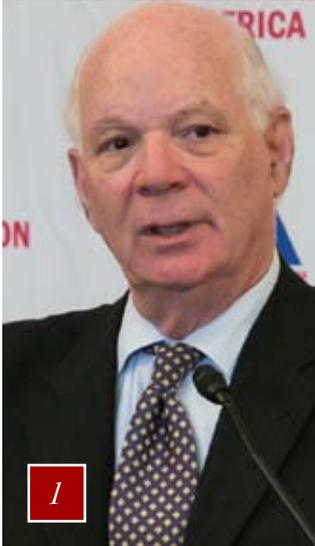
relevant ZOA press releases were distributed to the entire Senate, and ZOA was actively involved with Senate staffers in formulating hard-hitting questions that Senators actually asked during the confirmation hearings. In the end, both Hagel and Brennan were confirmed along largely partisan lines, with Democrats almost uniformly supporting President Obama’s nominees, and Republicans opposing. The vote for Ambassador Power to be our UN representative found only a handful of principled opponents, but ZOA’s insistence that her record of hostile comments on Israel and demonizing our own country established the principle that anti-Israel advocacy will not be forgotten by those of us who care about Israel.

The President’s nomination of Chuck Hagel, an unqualified ideologue, to be Secretary of Defense, and John Brennan, a fundamentally wrongheaded Arabist and sympathizer with our nation’s enemies, to be Director of the CIA, stand as uncomfortable, unwanted, and unwelcome reminders of President Obama’s flawed policy objectives and lack of vision and leadership in international relations.

In addition to dealing with our elected officials, the Government Relations Department interacts with other Jewish organizations in DC. We also participate in written and broadcast media opportunities to spread the word about ZOA’s issues. In August, one of the Co-Directors spoke to a gathering of ZOA members in Michigan to mobilize them to engage in political activity even without visiting Washington. More regional visits are planned. For activists who can make it to Washington, the May ZOA Mission to Washington was a great success, with many members of Congress addressing our delegates during the lunch program. Hundreds of ZOA members met with Senators and Congressmen to advocate regarding Iran, aid to the PA, and aid to Egypt. The annual Mission helps underscore that, at the heart of all of the Government Relations Department’s efforts, stands the dedication, passionate advocacy and depth of knowledge of ZOA members across the country. Please continue to stay involved in the grass roots advocacy that is so critical to our being effective in Washington, DC. 

PICTORIAL

DC ADVOCACY MISSION



- 1. Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD)
- 2. Cong. Paul Broun (R-GA)
- 3. ZOA Mission participants with staffers
- 4. ZOA Co-Director of Government Relations Dan Pollak makes a point
- 5. ZOA Executive Director David Drimer with Cong. Paul Broun (R-GA)
- 6. Board Member Jim Pollack, Sen. Ben Cardin, ZOA President Morton A. Klein and Cong. Trent Franks (R-AZ)
- 7. ZOA delegates listen to addresses
- 8. ZOA delegates at a congressional meeting



PICTORIAL

DC ADVOCACY MISSION



1. ZOA Philadelphia Co-President Lee Bender and son
2. ZOA Co-Director of Government Relations Josh London discusses ZOA's lobbying issues
3. Cong. Billy Long (R-MO) addresses the ZOA Mission
4. ZOA President Morton A. Klein and Cong. Lou Gohmert (R-TX)
5. Board Members Dr. Gerald Platt and Mark Levenson
6. Cong. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) addressing crowd



PICTORIAL

DC ADVOCACY MISSION



1. Cong. Mike Fitzpatrick with ZOA delegates

2. Cong. Tim Helskamp (R-KS) speaks before the ZOA DC Advocacy Mission

3. Mid-Atlantic Co-President Howard Katzoff and Gene Shusman, Board Member

4. Cong. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) speaks with ZOA President Morton A. Klein

5. Young delegates listening to congressional addresses during the ZOA Mission

6. ZOA President Morton Klein showing PA map of all Israel as Palestine



CAMPUS ACTIVEISM NETWORK



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ZACH STERN: NEW NORTHEAST REGION CAMPUS COORDINATOR

Zach is very excited to start as the new ZOA Campus Coordinator for the Northeast region! He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2012 and spent the last year in Tel Aviv on an internship program. He worked for Fight Hatred and helped counter anti-Semitism and anti-Israel hate speech throughout the world, including on college campuses. He's been actively involved in the Jewish community his entire life and is looking forward to continuing his involvement in the Jewish and pro-Israel community at ZOA.

DAVID AXELROD: NEW MID ATLANTIC CAMPUS COORDINATOR

David is the ZOA's new Mid Atlantic Campus Coordinator. He is excited to join the ZOA staff because the ZOA has not given up the fight for Judea and Samaria. In addition, ZOA is noticeably helping students who openly support

Zionism on campus, despite intimidation by students and faculty who falsely portray Zionism as a racist ideology. Zach is looking forward to helping and supporting students who find themselves in this ideological war on campus.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP MISSION TO ISRAEL

Last year's ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel was a tremendous success. Many of the participants are pro-Israel leaders on regional campuses and everyone was a dedicated Zionist. The trip reinforced participants' appreciation for the Jewish people's historic and legal rights to their homeland, it debunked common misconceptions about Israeli actions and policies, and it inspired students to increase their Israel advocacy when they returned to school.

The group stayed in Jerusalem for most of the trip so that participants were able to familiarize themselves with the city. Students learned about the attacks on Jewish civilians, the religious persecution, and the desecration of holy sites during the period of Jordanian occupation of Jerusalem, as compared to the religious tolerance, safety, and free access to all holy sites after

CAMPUS ACTIVISM NETWORK

the city was reunified and under Israeli rule.

Students spent a significant portion of the trip in Judea and Samaria, where they met with community members and leaders in religious communities such as Hebron, Efrat, and Gush Etzion, and in secular communities such as Ariel and Maaleh Efrayim. They stood on the mountaintops of Samaria overlooking the coastal plain where half of Israel's population resides. They were reminded of the once persistent attacks on Israeli civilians when Jordan held the high ground. By the end of the trip, every participant shared that their perspective of the Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria had changed. They understood that Jews must always have the right to live in that part of the Jewish homeland.

The Mission hosted a number of speakers who helped shed light on the incitement to hatred and murder within Palestinian society and the misrepresentations of fact by the Arab propaganda machine. Itamar Marcus, of Palestinian Media Watch, delivered a multimedia presentation analyzing Palestinian news and popular TV shows which demonize Jews and glorify vicious acts of murder and violence. For many participants, this was an eye-opening experience, since this daily incitement isn't reported in the mainstream media.

The students were also joined by *Jerusalem Post* editor, Khaled Abu-Toameh, who formerly worked as a journalist for the PLO and maintains contact in Palestinian communities. Khaled explained what life is like under Palestinian Authority rule: daily oppression and almost no civil liberties.

Through their tours in Judea and Samaria, the students saw the luxurious homes and private villas of Palestinian Arabs in lavish cities like Ramallah. This was a far cry from the "humanitarian disaster" and "squalor" that Arab propagandists publicize to the international community.

The ZOA staff ran a number of educational programs throughout the trip. One jointly-led staff session prepared students to respond effectively to difficult issues that might come up on campus, such as addressing the Iranian nuclear threat, and countering the false claim that "set-



Students on roof of Sderot Yeshiva in front of menorah made of Qassam rockets fired on Israeli civilians from Gaza

tlements are an obstacle to peace.”

The meetings with members of the Knesset, organized by ZOA's Israel Director Jeff Daube, were a highlight of the Mission. Prior to these meetings, students participated in a program called Speed Knesset, which briefed them on the Israeli political system, the various political parties, and the key issues facing Israel. David Kadosh, the Campus Department's Associate Director, did a program on the importance of Jewish self-defense with an introductory Krav Maga (Israeli close quarters combat) component.

The Mission's closing session reinforced what was learned throughout the trip and students developed action plans to bring ZOA programs and speakers to campus in the coming year. The entire group was enthusiastic about sharing what they had experienced with their fellow students. ZOA's campus coordinators will be working with the participants when they return to their respective campuses, helping them spread the Zionist message and inspire love and support for Israel.

ZOA ESSAY CONTEST

Last semester, ZOA ran its second national essay contest. Students from across the country expressed their thoughts about "Why is Zionism Important Today?" Every student who

CAMPUS ACTIVISM NETWORK



ZOA students with IDF soldiers manning patrol road near Lebanon border

submitted an essay deserves recognition for the time spent on researching and writing. Here are the contest winners:

Grand Prize: Daniel Cohen (Columbia University '15); **Second Prize:** Benjamin Horowitz (Cornell University '15); **Third Prize:** Joseph Morris (SUNY Albany '14). Daniel Cohen's essay will be published in the next issue of ZOA's *The College Zionist*.

THE BDS WAVE ROCKS CALIFORNIA SHORES

Last April, the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) was an uncomfortable battleground for many Jewish students when the student government considered an anti-Israel divestment bill. Similar bills had been adopted at other UC campuses, at Irvine, Riverside, San Diego and Berkeley. Notwithstanding these student efforts, the University of California Regents, which governs the entire UC system and controls the allocation of funds, had declared that it would not take any divestment actions against Israel.

When the UCSB student government considered the anti-Israel divestment bill, the deliberations were heated and long, extending through the night. The auditorium was packed, requiring the overflow of people to wait outside. Every person who wished to speak at this public

forum was allowed up to 5 minutes. The room was clearly divided between Israel supporter and enemy, and the courage of the students who spoke the truth about Israel was inspiring. One student brought the room to tears when he described his plan to withdraw from UCSB, despite his accomplishments after four years at the university, should the divestment bill pass. The university he had come to love and which had felt like home, was no longer a welcoming environment.

After the public forum, the school's three executive officers were given 10 minutes each to speak. All three officers were members of the anti-Israel Students for Justice in Palestine. They abused their executive privilege and launched into a tirade against Israel, speaking longer than their allotted times. One of them offended many in the audience when he invoked the age-old anti-Semitic blood libel against the Jews of Israel, accusing them of harvesting the organs of the African refugees who have been given asylum in Israel.

Ultimately, the student government voted against the divestment bill. They voted against the forces of hate. They voted against alienating and marginalizing a significant group of students at the university. They made the right decision and set a precedent for student governments at other schools. The students who stood up to the hateful BDS proponents should be applauded for their efforts.

SOUTHEAST REGION

The ZOA Campus Department's Managing Director and Southeast Campus Coordinator, Sharona Whisler, brought several programs to their campuses last semester. She led a discussion about Zionism at the University of Miami with student leaders who took part in a fellowship called ITEAM. The discussion covered the history of Zionism and the significance of Zionism today.

ZOA also brought IDF Col. Bentzi Gruber to speak on campus. His informative presentation is always well received and attended by a diverse audience, including members of ROTC who are particularly interested in Israel's com-

CAMPUS ACTIVISM NETWORK

mitment to the security of the Jewish State and how a safer Israel means a safer United States. Col Gruber spoke to a receptive audience at Vanderbilt University and to a group of college students and young professionals in South Florida. During Col. Gruber's presentation at Florida Atlantic University (FAU), his speech was interrupted in an orchestrated effort by members of the Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), who were punished by the university for their misconduct. While pro-Israel students at FAU continued to face hostility from the SJP last semester, their pro-Israel club grew and they have been making plans for a successful new year.

WEST COAST REGION

ZOA's West Coast Campus Coordinator, David Kadosh, worked with a number of schools throughout the region to counter the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement this past semester. David also brought his program on the importance of Jewish self-defense to the University of Southern California, UCLA, Cal State Northridge, and UC Davis, which includes an introductory Krav Maga (Israeli hand to hand combat) component. This program empowers Jewish youth and builds self-esteem while tying it to the Zionist movement.

At Cal State Northridge, David also delivered a presentation on Zionism, delving into the importance of the movement and its continued relevance after the creation of Israel. He also ran a program, during a Yom HaZikaron event on campus, in honor of Michael Levin, an American who emigrated to Israel and fought and died in the Second Lebanon war.

SUMMER INTERNSHIP

This past summer, ZOA's National Office opened its doors to summer interns from Columbia University, SUNY Albany, Brooklyn College, and the Trinity School in Manhattan. Interns worked on both group and individual projects. Their major group project was to create an informational pamphlet and video for



Students seek sanctions to harm and delegitimize Israel

students, apprising them of their rights under Title VI of the Civil Right Act. ZOA played a key role in ensuring that Title VI is enforced to protect Jewish students from anti-Semitic harassment and intimidation at publicly-funded schools.

Summer interns also worked on articles for the next issue of the ZOA's magazine for students, *The College Zionist*, and they helped enhance ZOA's social media exposure. In addition to Facebook, you will now find ZOA active on Twitter (@ZOA_Campus) and Tumblr (<http://zoacampus.tumblr.com/>).

THE COLLEGE ZIONIST

In the most recent issue of *The College Zionist*, students from Binghamton University, Queens College, New York University, and Rutgers University contributed articles on subjects relevant and interesting to pro-Israel student activists. The theme of the issue paralleled the focus of our essay contest, bringing Zionism and its importance today to the forefront of Israel advocacy on campus. The magazine is distributed on campuses across the country. 



ZOA A BIOGRAPHY PEOPLE

DR. ROBERT J. SHILLMAN

D

Dr. Robert J. Shillman, Founder, Chairman and Chief Culture Officer of Cognex Corporation, the world's leading supplier of machine vision systems, world expert on machine vision and artificial intelligence and wide-ranging, passionate supporter of America's free enterprise system, is also a devoted Zionist. Dr Bob is a major supporter of the ZOA—each year, he sponsors many “Shillman tables” at our National Dinner to bring in college students to learn from the exciting lectures and ambiance. He is also a great support of our campus programs and our Law & Justice Center. Dr. Bob had long been active and preoccupied with ways to help Israel, a country under relentless siege of every type – military, political, psychological—and it was only a matter of time before he met Mort Klein and came aboard the ZOA.

Educated at Northeastern University (BSEE) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MSSE and PhD), Shillman became a world authority on Optical Character Recognition (OCR) and played a major role in automating manufacturing internationally. He held faculty positions at MIT and was serving on the Electrical Engineering Faculty of Tufts University when he founded Cognex Corporation in 1981, of which he remains Chairman and Chief Culture Officer today. In the three decades that have followed, Cognex has enjoyed extraordinary success and growth as the world's leading supplier of machine vision systems. Shillman was

named Inc. Magazine's High Tech Entrepreneur of the Year in 1990.

Dr. Bob works hard and plays hard—his signature philosophy of life and endeavor—living in his magnificent San Diego mansion, continuing to support vital causes, helping his Asian-Jewish wife Mao raise their two sons, Max and Barney, and racing sports cars in his spare time.

Having succeeded so spectacularly, Shillman was in the rare position of being able to turn his attention to philanthropy and give free rein to his strong sense of idealism. “I believe I've made enough money,” he says candidly. “Thank G-d, the capitalist system we have has enabled me to create and make money. Now I have more money than time, so I choose to work with causes that I believe in. So in my forties, I started thinking of philanthropy.”

Shillman sits on a variety of philanthropic boards, including Northeastern University, the Israel Institute of Technology, The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous, The Friends of the Israel Defense Forces and the David Horowitz Freedom Center. Northeastern University, Waseda University, the Israel Institute of Technology and MIT have all been the recipient of Shillman's generous grants and endowments. Indeed Northeastern University's main classroom building today bears his name. He also supports a retirement home in South Carolina. Ever an innovative businessman and deeply appreciative of his staff, Shillman opened a pinball room and a frisbee field for them, and holds elaborate Halloween parties. Long-term employees have earned free trips to the seven wonders of the world.

“I don't like the term ‘giving back,’” he explains, “which implies that I took that which belonged to someone else. For this reason, the term ‘giving back’ is improper. I prefer to speak of helping, investing, tikkun olam, making the world a better place.”

Shillman sees tikkun olam as advancing and preserving the values that made the United States the greatest home of research, innovation and wealth creation that the world has known. He does not see this remarkable achievement as automatically self-perpetuating. “Sadly, there's always the need to improve and preserve; we

ZOA PEOPLE

call it entropy in science. Therefore, it's incumbent on those of us who have the means and wherewithal to make the world a better place to do so.

"I want to help people who share the same religious and ethical background—in my case Jews, based on my belief and observation that if Jews don't take care about themselves, who will? Most people don't have an interest in or care about the Jews. Jews and some Christians aside, few have an interest in Jews, except in the negative sense."

"Jews are the most philanthropic people in the world. Most studies have shown that Jewish wealth largely goes not towards helping Jews, but helping the poor, the under-educated everywhere. That's fine and I don't criticize it, but I believe my focus, as a Jew and ethical human being, should be on Jews first. And the truth is, though it is not well-known, that Jews are by no means always well-off, and are often poor.

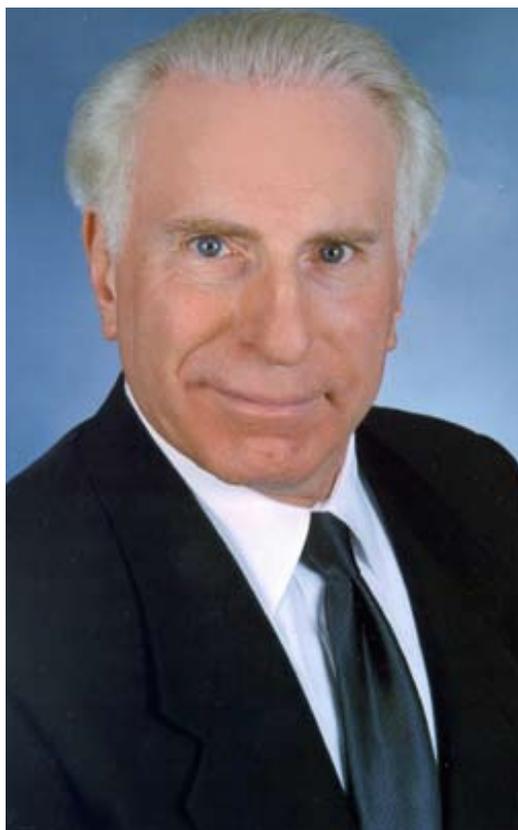
"Accordingly, much of my money goes to supporting Israel and for Holocaust survivors, as well as to non-Jewish people who risked their lives to help and save Jews during the war.

"That's how I came to know Mort Klein and become part of ZOA. ZOA, in my view, is one of the staunchest supporters of Israel, of its vitality and success. There is no organization on my list—and there are over 50 that I support, and they are pro-Israel, pro-democracy—there is none that tops ZOA with regard to its strong and forceful support of Israel."

Shillman recounts how he first came to know of Mort Klein and ZOA. "I happened to be at an AIPAC Executive Committee meeting, where I found a majority of those present to be left of center. Mort, of course, was also present and I saw him take issue with the AIPAC leadership on some issue of the day. When I first heard Mort speak, speaking out very strongly on something as a voice of opposition I, who was not so vocal at this point, said to myself, 'Here's someone I need to know more about.' Since then, Mort I have been good friends. I have especially enjoyed taking Mort for a ride in one of my race cars. Mort couldn't believe he survived it. Mort and Rita have been in our home many times, even spending weekends with us. We've

celebrated Shabbos together, with my wife and Rita doing the blessings over the Sabbath candles together and my sons leading the Grace after Meals. He's a very great soul. I congratulate him for his fortitude in fighting our enemies, despite all the difficulties."

Shillman sees ZOA's work as more critical than ever. "The US, in my view, should be strongly supporting Israel which, under the current administration, it does not. In my view, this administration is the most antithetical to and destructive of the Israeli/US relationship that has existed." Referring to the recent Obama Administration cutting off US aid to Egypt since the military removed Mohamed Morsi from power, he continues, "The Obama Administration's support for the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt is a perfect example of how the US is supporting radical Muslim organizations rather than those who have a reasonably sustained and positive relationship with Israel." 



ZOA ISRAEL OFFICE

FIGHTING FOR JERUSALEM, JEWISH RIGHTS AND JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS

ZOA Israel has been especially concerned with developments at Judaism's oldest and holiest cemetery on the Mt. of Olives, and its constantly beset access roads and neighboring Jewish communities. Lately, with life-threatening incidents occurring more frequently, we have been putting more pressure on government officials to make the police accountable.

We brought Ma'ale Hazeitim resident and radio personality Yishai Fleisher, himself a stoning victim, to testify at one of the Knesset hearings about the growing violence. He helped make the case that rock attacks and attempted lynchings should be viewed not only as criminal, but in terms of the Arab goal to empty major portions of Jerusalem of their Jewish presence.

Interest in our issue has come primarily from Israel's National Religious camp, with some interest from secular leadership, but in recent months we also have managed to penetrate the Haredi sector. Two Shas and two United Torah Judaism (UTJ) MKs, along with Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Yossi Deitsch, have agreed to join our effort. We published numerous articles in eight Haredi publications, and are circulating a petition among Haredi rabbinic leadership to press ministers and PM Netanyahu to act more decisively for Jerusalem.

ZOA Israel conducted a Yom Hazikaron (Memorial Day) program at the cemetery to honor the memory of the 228 Shoah-surviving lone soldiers who fell in Israel's War of Independence. Some of the yeshiva students who attended are themselves lone soldiers. We also organized a Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day) program for Deputy Defense Minister Danny Danon, a strong ally in our efforts to stop the illegal Ras al Amud mosque extension abutting

PM Menachem Begin's grave.

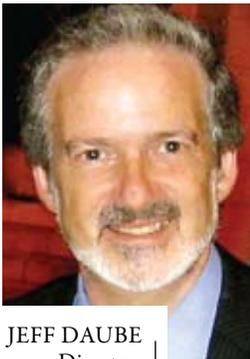
As a featured presenter at the First International Jerusalem Symposium on Green and Accessible Pilgrimage, we introduced the issue to a different kind of audience and with a new angle. After we had escorted conference organizer Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Naomi Tsur to reconnect with her grandfather's gravesite on the Mt. of Olives, she became personally invested in incorporating the area in her green city agenda.

New York Times Bureau Chief Jodi Rudoren was less receptive, even after we brought her along for Tsur's moving cemetery visit and carefully explained the broader context. In a subsequent article, Rudoren focused on Arab rock throwing as sport, barely mentioning the deadly intended effects.

ZOA Israel has been working closely with Israeli organization Regavim to defend Israel's Zionist character. Our two day conference and on-site briefing last fall kicked off a series of events and activities to alert the government, media and public to dangerous Arab and Bedouin land confiscations in Judea and Samaria.

We also recently co-lead a Sukkot trip to show the harmful results of NGO interference in Israel-controlled Samaria, known as Area C. And we briefed a contingent of pro-Israel activists at a Riverdale, N.Y. event in May via streaming video.

Long before the summer announcement that Israel would release an additional 104 convicted terrorists, ZOA Israel had been working on the legal, ethical and strategic aspects, in particular on behalf of American victims and their affected families. To date, the responsible U.S. agencies still have not fulfilled their legislatively mandated assignments. We have been approaching officials in the Departments of Justice and State,



JEFF DAUBE
Director,
ZOA Israel

ZOA ISRAEL OFFICE

and in the embassy and Jerusalem consulate in Israel, to address that lapse.

ZOA Israel raised the matter of premature releases of convicted terrorists with many of the congressmen who visited Israel last August, pointing specifically to the two Palestinian murderers of American ex-marine Steven Frederick Rosenfeld. Democrat and Republican

leaders alike expressed interest, including ZOA friend and House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA), who is a close relation of one of the terror victims. We also presented a letter to all of the visiting legislators, with a copy for Ambassador Shapiro to follow up our previous meeting with him — then, in connection with the 1,000 terrorists released for hostage Gilad Shalit.

EXPOSING THE LIES AND STRENGTHENING THE TIES

The attempts by anti-Israel groups and their foreign backers to influence Israel's political climate, often acting in opposition to the will of the Israeli electorate, add up to a major hurdle for Israel supporters. ZOA Israel has promoted a robust Zionist message in response.

We attended close to a dozen anti-Israel events in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in recent months, challenging their disinformation and condemnations whenever possible. For example, at a Palestine-Israel Journal symposium, we countered chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat's criticism of the opening of a new school in Barkan. At another program, we objected to a radical Israeli speaker urging female IDF soldiers to refuse to serve and to encourage their male peers to do the same.

The Israel Office also accompanied ZOA National Board Chairman Michael Goldblatt to a number of meetings, with the ZOA's comprehensive review of J Street's damaging agenda in hand, hoping to dissuade certain leaders from attending J Street's fall conference. During the conference, Israel radio station TLV-1 FM asked us to comment on J Street's impact on the American political scene.

The Israel Office reached out to the Council of Religious Institutions of the Holy Land (CRIHL), a Norwegian-led NGO. We provided an eastern Jerusalem briefing for its leadership, along with regular updates about

Mt. of Olives cemetery desecrations and attacks against Jewish worshippers at other locations. We are hoping to influence CRIHL's reporting, which has been falsely implying these incidents are equivalent to, if not exceeded by, Israeli violations.

In our effort to upgrade Zionist education for our embattled youth, we met several times with promising future Israeli leaders at the prestigious Jewish Statesmanship Center; conducted a briefing for participants on a Young Jewish Conservatives mission; and introduced colleagues from MEOR, a program fostering Jewish leadership at top American universities, to the sites and problems of eastern Jerusalem.



Young demonstrator in front of Prime Minister's office protesting the release of Arab terrorist murderers

BRIEFING VISITORS, WELCOMING ZOA LEADERS, CHALLENGING THE U.S. PRESIDENT

ZOA Israel briefed dozens of distinguished leaders, professionals, journalists and activists, and participants on Israel advocacy and congregational missions, about ZOA's recent activities and central issues.

We arranged private meetings for ZOA leaders, National President Morton Klein, National Board Chairman Michael Goldblatt and National Treasurer Henry Schwartz. The information went both ways during their respective dis-

cussions with members of Knesset, government ministers, MFA and Government Press Office officials, the future Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. and foreign policy experts.

We also arranged speaking opportunities for Morton Klein who addressed more than 200 participants at a winter mission led by former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee. Gov. Huckabee introduced Mort Klein as one of the few major Jewish leaders consistently demonstrating courage and integrity. Last spring, Mort spoke at two conferences at Ariel University.

ZOA's Purim/IDF campaign broke all records for its bar mitzvah year. Eight thousand mishloach manot were packed by volunteers and distributed to IDF bases throughout Israel, led by President of ZOA's Brooklyn Region and National Board member Rubin Margules. ZOA Development Director Howard Katzoff and his wife Patti once again helped bring the packages and handwritten letters of gratitude to the appreciative soldiers.

We discussed President Obama's foreign policy toward Egypt and Syria with American officials at Ambassador Shapiro's July 4 reception and at his 9/11 memorial program. At both gatherings, we spoke up about the Trans Green Line Boycott. Contrary to U.S. policy opposing BDS (boycotts, divestment and sanctions), USAID and MEPI have been excluding Jewish residents and businesses from their funding largesse in Judea, Samaria and eastern Jerusalem.

When President Obama visited last spring, ZOA Israel publicly objected to his decision to decline a Knesset invitation, and to exclude Ariel University students from his Jerusalem Convention Center address. We wrote a letter to U.S. Ambassador Shapiro concerning the affront to both institutions, and formally presented the letter at an Ariel University demonstration in front of the U.S. Jerusalem Consulate. 



Yogev (Bayit Yehudi) rallying the crowd to protest the release of Arab terrorist murderers



ZOA Leaders Rubin Margules, Howard Katzoff and Jeff Daube aboard Israeli missile frigate during ZOA's Purim/IDF campaign

AROUND ZOA THE COUNTRY

Pittsburgh District's signature project is known as the Tolerance Education Program which culminates in a trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. It focuses on the events of the Holocaust to teach young people, during their most impressionable years, about the horrific consequences of hatred.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

ZOA's Pittsburgh District continues its long-standing role as a strong and visible advocate for the State of Israel in the Pittsburgh area. The highlight of the year is our gala Annual Dinner, last held in late 2012. At the event, the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Linda F. Hurwitz and Howard W. Hanna, III, based on their outstanding commitment to the community, the Jewish people and the State of Israel.

Two other awards were presented at the gala. The Natalie E. Novick Community Leadership Award, established in memory of Ms. Novick's lifetime of service and leadership, is awarded to individuals who best represent the spirit of community leadership for Jewish and humanitarian causes. The recipient in 2012 was Jeff Pollock. The Israel Service Award is presented each year for outstanding support for the State of Israel. In 2012, the recipient was Eva Vogel.

ZOA's Pittsburgh District's signature project is known as the Tolerance Education Program. It is carried out in cooperation with the Board of Education of the Pittsburgh Public Schools and the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh, and culminates in a trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. The program focuses on the events of the Holocaust to teach young people about the horrific consequences of hatred, and to encourage tolerance and respect.

The curriculum for the program is directed primarily at 10th grade students. This past year, seven buses carried 336 students and 49 teacher/chaperones to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. To date, ZOA's Pittsburgh District has taken almost 4,000 students to the museum. Where can you find a young Muslim woman wearing a ZOA t-shirt? Why

of course, on a ZOA-sponsored trip to DC.

For over 50 years, the Pittsburgh District has been providing financial assistance to young people traveling to Israel. The ZOA Israel Scholarship Program was founded in 1962 as an investment in the children of our region. This year, the Pittsburgh District awarded a \$1,500 scholarship to Isaac Miller who will be going to Israel for the first time, participating in a BBYO Passport educational program.

ZOA's Pittsburgh District sponsors a number of lectures each year. This year two stood out. Leading up to the elections in Israel, the Adult Education Committee of Congregation Beth Shalom asked the ZOA's Pittsburgh District to present an overview of the elections and where the Israeli leadership may take the country. Shortly after the new government was seated, ardent Zionist and current board member, Cyril Wecht, MD JD, delivered a fascinating presentation from a Zionist point of view.

Rev. Bruce Leonatti presented a second program that was well received by the membership. Rev. Leonatti earned a degree in education with an emphasis



Students from Pittsburgh's Taylor Allderdice High School at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, as part of ZOA's Tolerance Program

ZOA AROUND THE COUNTRY



Left to right: Jeff Pollock, Linda F. Hurwitz, Howard W. "Hoddy" Hanna III, Eva Vogel

in history and taught in public schools for ten years. He later received a Masters of Divinity Degree (again with an emphasis in history) from the Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary. He holds an active teaching certificate and has been a part-time substitute public school teacher for 26 years. Rev. Leonatti discussed Islamic indoctrination in high school textbooks, pointing out the inaccuracies and historical revisions commonly printed by major textbook publishers, which present a sanitized history of Islam.

GREATER PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT

The Greater Philadelphia District had its Annual Gala on October 9, 2013. Human Rights Activist Nonie Darwish received the Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism, Ruth C. and Mort B.

Gleit received the Pillars of the Community Award, State Senator Anthony Williams received the Friend of Zion Award, and Rabbi Eric Yanoff received the Guardian of Israel Award.

President Lee Bender, Vice President Jerry Verlin, Treasurer Len Getz and Executive Director Steve Feldman have given many talks throughout the region in the preceding months on a variety of topics related to Israel and the Middle East, including anti-Israel media bias and the history of the Jewish people in the land of Israel. Audiences have included synagogue congregations, church groups, organizations and university campuses. Bender's and Verlin's book, *Pressing Israel: Media Bias Exposed From A to Z*, has been a popular subject for presentations.

Philadelphia ZOA members took part in the Philadelphia Jewish community's Israel 65 Parade and fair.

Nearly 60 people from our region took part in National ZOA's Annual Advocacy Mission to Washington, DC.

Several of our leaders and members have had letters-to-the-editor published in area newspapers and Executive Director Steve Feldman had an article published by AmericanThinker.com

Our most recent quarterly meeting featured presentations by the father-and-son team of William and Marc Langfan. More than 100 people attended to learn about the importance of the land to Israel's citizens and also the lies and broken promises by the Palestinian Arabs. We also had a meeting featuring guest speaker Frank Gaffney.

Philadelphia ZOA added several new members to our board. Our regular pro-Israel counter-demonstration is now in its 12th year, under the leadership of board member Henry Frank.



Left to right: Ruth and Mort Gleit, Rabbi Eric Yanoff

ZOA AROUND THE COUNTRY

ZOA MICHIGAN REGION

Today, anti-Israel sentiment is spreading in the media and academia. Anti-Israel groups are well-funded and well-organized, and they specialize in persuading Jewish and non-Jewish people of all ages to turn against Israel. Our goal at ZOA- Michigan Region is to promote education, awareness, and support for Israel in communities and schools statewide.

As supporters of Israel, we realize Jewish teens and young adults are in danger of losing their Jewish identities, including their cultural connection to Israel. The ZOA-MI Israel Education Scholarship Program for high school students brings teens together to learn about Jewish history and how to advocate for Israel. Participants are eligible to apply for a special ZOA-MI

scholarship to help fund an Israel experience.

Advocacy on college and university campuses is a cornerstone of ZOA operations. We've formed partnerships with young leaders on a variety of campuses, including the University of Michigan, Michigan State and Wayne State. Through jointly sponsored debates, rallies and programs, we strive to raise awareness and combat anti-Israel sentiment.

ZOA-MI also hosts a number of community-wide programs each year. Our events focus on Israeli political and cultural education. We've hosted lectures and discussions given by writers, politicians, professors, and even former terrorists. We screen relevant documentaries to educate the community.

ZOA-MI sponsors Sunday soccer and Tuesday night basketball leagues for young adults and young professionals 18-35. We also share our expertise on issues facing Israel and American Jewry through published op-eds, interviews, a weekly newsletter and Facebook. 

Bring ZOA to your campus! Contact your campus coordinator and set up a meeting

Presentations include

Judea & Samaria: The Jewish Homeland: This topic covers a number of issues including settlements, geography, demographics, topography, history, security and legal issues.

The Case for an Undivided Jerusalem: Take a multifaceted look at the difficulties in dividing Jerusalem. Additional educational pamphlets accompany this presentation.

Gaza 8 Years After: The Aftermath of Israel's 2005 Unilateral "Disengagement": Learn about the lead-up to the 2005 decision to "disengage" from Gaza, and Israel's challenges in dealing with Gaza since then. Additional educational pamphlets accompany this presentation.

What They Say About Israel: The Truth Behind Palestinian Incitement: A comprehensive look at the scary messages children are getting from Hamas and PA TV shows, and the double talk of leaders who claim to be ending violence towards Israel. Included in this presentation is a YouTube video produced by the ZOA's summer interns.

Interested in bringing these or other great ZOA programs to your campus? Contact us.

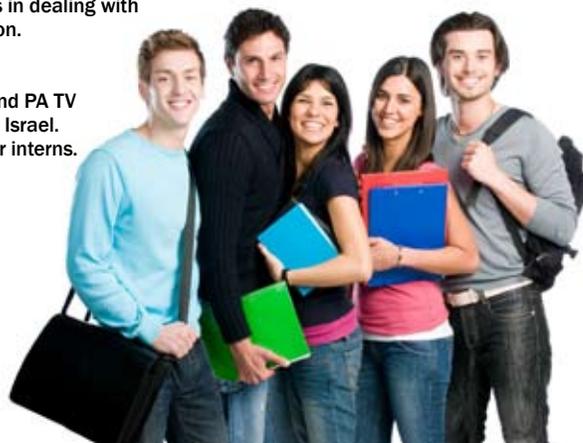
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ZOA ANALYSIS

BEHIND THE NEWS

ZOA CONDEMNS ABBAS'S FATAH/PA FOR GLORIFYING ATTEMPTED MURDER OF 9 YEAR OLD JEWISH GIRL



The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) has condemned Mahmoud Abbas' Palestinian Authority (PA) for praising the attempted murder of a 9-year old Jewish girl by a member of Fatah, the party founded by Yasser Arafat which controls the PA and of which Mahmoud Abbas is leader. The girl was shot and wounded in the Psagot, in the Judean hills on Saturday. Her attacker was immediately praised on the official Fatah Facebook page as the "the sniper of Palestine."

In other recent acts of vicious incitement and glorification of Jew-killing terrorists, the PA held a memorial for terrorist Abu Sukkar, who murdered 15 Israelis with a bomb and whom Abbas personally praised in a speech, saying that "Fatah lost a beacon." A few days earlier, Fatah Central Committee member, Jibril Rajoub, who also heads the Palestinian Olympic Committee, glorified terrorist Dalal Mughrab—the Fatah terrorist who led the coastal road bus hijacking in 1978 in which 37 Israelis were killed, including a dozen children—by sponsoring the Martyr Dalal Mughrabi Table Tennis Tourna-

ment. Also, PA radio broadcast a poem read by PA schoolchildren which includes the words "our enemy, Zion, is Satan with a tail."

NEW POLL: LARGE MAJORITY OF ISRAELI JEWS OPPOSE CONCESSIONS TO ABBAS' PA ON WITHDRAWALS FROM JUDEA/SAMARIA/E. JERUSALEM



A new poll has shown that a large majority of Israeli Jews oppose concessions to Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah/Palestinian Authority. The poll, released by the Israeli Democracy Institute and conducted during July 27 – 30, 2013, found that 58% opposed evacuating even relatively minor Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria.

ZOA CONDEMNS DICTATOR ABBAS REITERATING STATEMENT: "NO JEWS IN FUTURE PALESTINIAN STATE"

The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) has condemned Palestinian Authority (PA) president and dictator Mahmoud Abbas for stating on Monday that no Jew



must be allowed to reside within a future Palestinian state. Abbas has made similar statements before, but the ZOA believes that his reiteration of this racist policy on the eve of Israeli/Palestinian negotiations make his statement particularly egregious.

Dr. Sari Nusseibeh, the Dean of Al-Quds University, widely touted as a Palestinian moderate: “The Israelis now living in the territories of the future Palestinian state should return to living within the borders of the state of Israel. No Jew in the world, now or in the future ... will have the right to return, to live, or to demand to live in Hebron, in East Jerusalem, or anywhere in the Palestinian state” (Interview on Al-Jazeera, November 30, 2007, translation in ‘Palestinian Researcher Dr. Sari Nusseibeh on the Return of Palestinian Refugees,’ Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI), November 30, 2007).



NEW IRANIAN PRES. ROUHANI IS EXTREMIST, EXPERIENCED IN DECEIVING WORLD ON COVERT NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM, INVOLVED IN MURDERING ARGENTINIAN JEWS

ZOA has pointed out Hassan Rouhani is a veteran insider involved in years of Iranian deception over its covert nuclear weapons program. Additionally, Rouhani was a member of the Iranian government committee that plotted the July 1994 bombing of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in which 85 people were killed and hundreds more maimed.

ZOA CRITICAL OF NY'S 92ND ST. Y HOSTING ANTI-ISRAEL, BORDERLINE ANTI-SEMITE ALICE WALKER

In a June 2011 interview in *Foreign Policy*, Alice Walker said, “I think Israel is the greatest terrorist in that part of the world.” Last year, Walker refused to permit her book, *The Color Purple*, to be translated into Hebrew because, in her view, “Israel is guilty of apartheid and persecution of the Palestinian people, both inside Israel and also in the Occupied Territories.”

ZOA WINS “OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT” AWARD FOR WEBSITE FROM IMA

The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) has been awarded Outstanding Achievement in Website Development by the Interactive Media Awards™ (IMA) for its work on the ZOA Website. The honor recognizes that



the project met and surpassed the basic standards of excellence that comprise the web's most professional work. The site, which focuses on combating anti-Semitism and educating the public on the ongoing Arab war against Israel, was honored specifically for excellence in Advocacy.

The judging consisted of various criteria, including design, usability, and innovation in technical features, standards compliance and content. In order to win this award level, the site had to meet strict guidelines in each area — an achievement only a small fraction of sites in the Interactive Media Awards competition earn each year.

The recently redesigned site is just one step in expanding the depth and breadth of ZOA's appeal, especially to the next generation of Zionists.

ZOA: KEY PARTICIPANT IN A ROUNDTABLE HOSTED BY HOUSE REPUBLICANS

On June 27, ZOA was a key participant in a roundtable discussion hosted by the House Republican Conference featuring Dani Dayan, Chief Foreign Envoy

and former Chairman of the YESHA Council, the umbrella organization representing the Jewish population in Judea and Samaria. Participants included Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee Ed Royce (R-CA), former Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee Chair and the current Chair of the Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chief Deputy Whip Peter Roskam (R-IL), Congressman Trent Franks (R-AZ), Congressman Tom Cotton (R-AR), ZOA's National President Morton Klein, and representatives from other American Jewish organizations. ZOA's central role in this meeting was illustrated by the Conference's request that Mr. Klein speak immediately following the comments of the Congressmen, before any other Jewish group.

The discussion focused on the historic and strategic significance of Judea and Samaria, and on the current obstacles to peace caused by the Palestinian Arabs, including Holocaust denial, hero worship of Jew-killing terrorists, and incitement to violence and hatred against Jews and Israel at the highest levels of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and permeating their entire culture. The discussion also highlighted some of the positive, constructive ways in which the Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria promote coexistence with the Palestinian Arabs in Judea and Samaria, including the tremendous economic and jobs boost that Jewish settlements have brought to the area since 1967. The discussion also covered Iran's nuclear program, and the evolving situation in Syria and elsewhere in the Middle East.

After remarks by Dayan, Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Ed Royce (R-CA) launched a forceful critique of the PA's incitement against Jews and Israel, pointing out that this is being spread in their schools, mosques, media, speeches and children's camps. He made it very clear that this incitement makes the possibility of peace very difficult.

Also speaking were Middle East Subcommittee Chair Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), who

ZOA ANALYSIS

indicated hearings on the Palestinian Arab incitement issue would be forthcoming. Congressman Trent Franks (R-AZ) spoke of his ongoing commitment to support Israel's ability to defend herself and indicated some of the benefits the US has received from Israel, such as F-16 avionics upgrades. He also stated that technology transfer between the two allies often benefit the US military far more than is commonly understood. Congressman Tom Cotton (R-AK) then emphasized the need for effective sanctions against Iran to persuade the regime to abandon its nuclear program. Congressman Roskam then asked for remarks from ZOA's National President Morton Klein before opening the discussion to other participants.

Mr. Klein was undoubtedly the most dynamic speaker at this meeting. In his brief remarks he effectively covered almost every ZOA talking point, beginning with the Fatah Poster commissioned for the 48th anniversary of the founding of the terrorist group. The poster shows all of Israel covered in a Kaffieh, and also

contains symbols including a Kalashnikov assault rifle and keys symbolizing the supposed right to return to homes in Israeli cities. Mort used this poster, as well as the similar one celebrating Fatah's 45th anniversary, as launching points to discuss PA incitement and the true issue in the Arab war against Israel and Jews: their inability to accept a Jewish state with any borders. Until this situation changes, he pointed out, any solution to the conflict will fail, no matter what concessions Israel makes. Mort also pointed out that as the child of survivors, Holocaust denial by Abbas is particularly repugnant.

Congressional reaction to Mr. Klein's remarks was enthusiastic. Rep. Ros-Lehtinen said she would use the Fatah posters provided by ZOA in upcoming hearings on Palestinian Arab incitement and the "peace process." Rep. Franks asked Mort for permission to use his remarks in a speech on the floor of the House, which he was currently writing. The Congressmen, particularly Rep. Cotton, also expressed agreement with ZOA positions on stopping Iran's nuclear program. [ZOA](#)

AROUND THE COUNTRY WITH MORT

Some Highlights of Morton A. Klein's Speaking Engagements:

Mort appeared on CNN Erin Burnett Show debating J Street's president.

Mort gave 2 major lectures at Ariel University in Samaria, Israel at a conference on the Arab war against Israel and another on an international conference on Gilles de la Tourette syndrome, a neurochemical disorder, which Mort has had since age five. He discussed his experiences growing up with Tourette. The editor of one of Israel's major medical journals asked Mort to write up his speech for publication. Both talks were very well received.

Mort gave a major address in Los Angeles, California on the topic, also 20 years later. Additionally he debated professor of Middle East Studies for the University of Denver, Paul Edelman, who was Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's Ph.D advisors.

Mort spoke at various synagogues, Israel bound events and appeared on other radio and TV shows.

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