



ZOA REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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U.S. Senator Blunt (R-MO); Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President; U.S. Cong. Ed Royce (R-CA), Chair, House Foreign Relations Committee

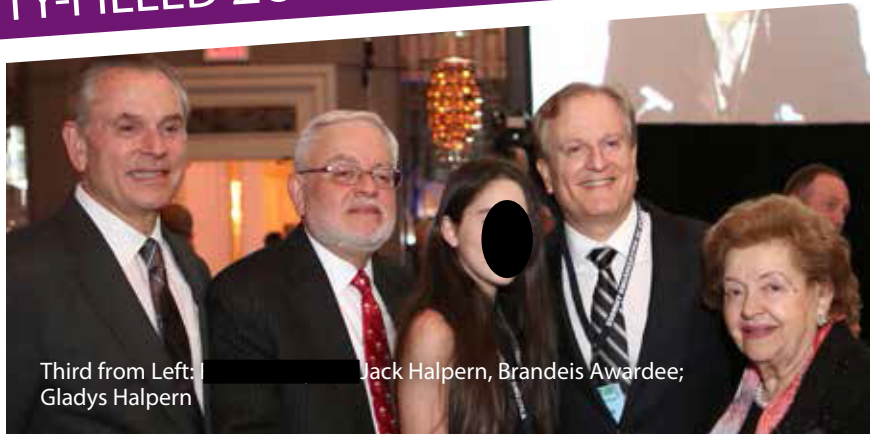


Global Philanthropists, Dr. Miriam and Sheldon Adelson

ADELSONS, VOIGHT, DERMER, HALPERN NETANYAHU, DERSHOWITZ, DANON ALSO SPEAK HONORED AT CELEBRITY-FILLED ZOA DINNER



Shillman Awardee, Hon. Ron Dermer, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. and Dr. Bob Shillman



Third from Left: Jack Halpern, Brandeis Awardee; Gladys Halpern



Above: 1200 attendees at the ZOA Gala; Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel; Hon. Danny Danon, Israel's UN Ambassador. Below: Prof. Alan Dershowitz; Derek Silver, Student Awardee with ZOA Campus staffers; 6 of 200+ student dinner attendees



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AT THIS CRITICAL TIME



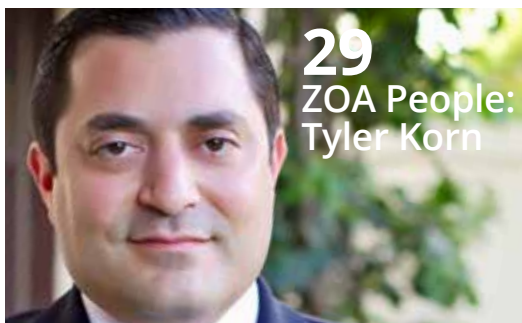
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WEDNESDAY,
MAY 11, 2016

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President's Message

CUNY: Stop Tolerating Jew-Hatred and Intimidation of Jewish Students

Campus anti-Semitism is a growing national problem and frighteningly, it has infected The City University of New York (CUNY), historically a haven for Jews and other minorities seeking an excellent, affordable college education. We work closely with students and others at CUNY and implore the leadership to finally fix the problem before the verbal violence escalates to physical violence.

At recent CUNY rallies, a group that calls itself “Students for Justice in Palestine” (SJP) condemned “the Zionist administration” at CUNY for hosting Birthright programs and study-abroad programs in “occupied Palestine” [i.e., Israel]. SJP demonstrators screamed insults at Jewish students, calling them “racists,” “white supremacists,” “Nazis,” and “supporters of genocide.” They chanted, “There is only one solution: Intifada revolution!” – calling for murder and violence against Jews. They shouted invectives like “Jews out of CUNY” and “Jews are racist sons of bitches!” One Jewish student was screamed at by SJP members to “get the f - -k out of my country!” Another heard someone yell, “We should drag the Zionists down the street!” “Zionists,” of course, means Jews.

Even CUNY staff were aghast. One described one of the rallies as “absolutely horrifying,” stating, “I have never witnessed anything like this before.”

Recently, the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) sent a 14-page letter to CUNY’s Chancellor, James Milliken, the Board of Trustees and public officials, describing the horrors, anguish and outright fear that Jewish students have been enduring, largely at the hands of the SJP. As a result of this group’s incitement, its promotion of vicious lies about Jews and Israel, and its resolve to isolate, ostracize and demonize Jewish students,

some are now afraid to wear yarmulkes, Stars of David, and pro-Israel shirts, afraid to walk in certain areas of their campus, and afraid to take classes at times when the SJP is holding its hateful demonstrations.

As horrifying as the SJP’s actions are, just as appalling is the weak and insensitive administrative response to the Jew-hatred and intimidation of Jewish students. Other than to issue statements defending SJP’s freedom of speech and encouraging respect for the rights of others, the leadership has never publicly condemned the SJP for promoting hatred, bigotry and even violence against Jews, nor has it held the SJP accountable under CUNY’s own rules and policies.

CUNY’s rules and policies demand that free speech be exercised without disrespecting the



MORTON A. KLEIN
*President,
Zionist Organization
of America*



SJP protest at CUNY

*In the exercise of moral leadership as educators,
it's time for CUNY to take the strong steps it
would and should surely take if blacks, Muslims
or gays were being targeted.*

members of CUNY's diverse community. They prohibit the kind of conduct that the SJP routinely engages in – harassment and intimidation, interfering with free speech rights, and inciting physical violence. Yet CUNY has never so much as suggested that the SJP should be removed as a registered student group – which provides it with funding and other benefits – even though the SJP violates the rules that every other student group is required to abide by.

Based on ZOA's work on campuses nationally, we know that promoting vicious and hateful lies against Jews and the Jewish state can escalate to actual physical violence. We saw that at the University of California (UC), Irvine a few years ago, a campus that was described by a Jewish student leader as “a hotbed for anti-Israel and anti-Semitic activism.” Signs, speeches and programs that regularly demonized Jews, “Zionists” and Israel, led to physical threats and violence against Jewish students. One student wearing a shirt that read, “Everybody loves a Jewish boy,” had a rock thrown at him, barely missing his head.

Likewise, at a recent SJP anti-Israel rally at UC Berkeley, the SJP leader took the microphone and began chanting, “Intifada, Intifada, we support the Intifada!” riling up the crowd and encouraging them to join in. Within minutes, a Jewish student holding a pro-Israel sign was physically assaulted. In 2010, during the SJP's “Apartheid Week,” a Jewish student was rammed from behind with a loaded shopping cart by an SJP leader. The Jewish student, who required medical attention, had simply been holding a sign that read, “Israel Wants Peace.”

G-d forbid, it could get worse.

As the distinguished historian Paul Johnson warned in his book, *A History of the Jews*: “One of the principal lessons of Jewish history has been that repeated verbal slanders are sooner or later followed by violent physical deeds. Time and again over the centuries, anti-Semitic writings created their own fearful momentum which climaxed in an effusion of Jewish blood.”

When will CUNY and other university leaders finally learn this lesson? Will they wait until there is more serious physical violence? In the exercise of moral leadership as educators, it's time for CUNY to take the strong steps it would and should surely take if blacks, Muslims or gays were being targeted. They must publicly condemn the SJP, the perpetrators of the anti-Semitism, by name, so that the SJP will be sent the message that they are a disgrace to CUNY and society's values. And, since the SJP refuses to comply with the rules and policies that apply to every student group, they must throw the SJP off every CUNY campus.

The ZOA is fully committed to ensuring a safe and respectful campus environment for Jewish students, which every student deserves.



Morton A. Klein
National President

Brandeis Award Dinner



Former U.S. Cong. Michele Bachmann; Jack Halpern, Brandeis Awardee; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee addresses ZOA Brandeis Dinner attendees; Global Philanthropists Sheldon Adelson and Dr. Miriam Adelson; Emcee Dr. Alan Mazurek, ZOA Vice Chair

ZOA's Louis D. Brandeis Award Gala is Studded with Zionist Stars

Headliners included Ambassadors Ron Dermer and Danny Danon, Jon Voight, Sheldon and Dr. Miriam Adelson. Plus videotaped remarks from Prime Minister Netanyahu, Alan Dershowitz

Over 1,100 people attended the ZOA's 117th Louis D. Brandeis Award Dinner on Sunday, November 22, at New York City's Grand Hyatt Hotel. Major donors provided tables for 219 university student activists.

Among those who addressed the crowd were Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Ron Dermer and newly appointed Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon; Academy Award-winner, Hollywood legend, and Christian Zionist Jon Voight;

global philanthropists/humanitarians Dr. Miriam and Sheldon Adelson; and distinguished philanthropist, businessman, and tireless Zionist activist Jack Halpern. Additionally, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and renowned Harvard Law Professor Emeritus Alan Dershowitz, recipient of ZOA's Mortimer Zuckerman Award for Outstanding Journalism, addressed the dinner by video. Yeshiva University President Richard Joel delivered the dvar Torah.

Honoree Jack Halpern: "Peace can only come if Palestinian Arabs understand and accept the Jewish people's claim to the land, a land that is Jewish by every conceivable criterion."

BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER



Mao Shillman; Dr. Bob Shillman; Ambassador Ron Dermer; U.S. Cong. Edward Royce, Dr. Miriam Adelson

Ambassador Danon: “If our enemies are testing our resolve, they will fail. We overcame suicide bombers, plane hijackings, mortar and rocket attacks—we’ll overcome stabbings.”

The crowd viewed a moving video of a major annual ZOA project that provides hundreds of gifts and food packages to soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces, in appreciation for their service. The project is headed by ZOA Board member Rubin Margules and ZOA Israel Director Jeff Daube.

Sheldon and Dr. Miriam Adelson presented the Dr. Miriam and Sheldon Adelson Defender of Israel Award to Jon Voight. Dr. Bob Shillman—founder and chairman of Cognex Corporation, the world’s leading supplier of machine vision systems—presented the Shillman Award for Outstanding Diplomacy to Ambassador Dermer. Harley Lippman and Dr. Ben Chouake co-chaired the dinner.

YU President Joel spoke of Joseph’s dream in the Bible, a dream of the Jewish people established in G-d’s designated land, and praised the ZOA for “fighting heroically to make Joseph’s dream a reality, working for the success of the nation of Israel in the land of Israel today.”

Ambassador Danny Danon

Ambassador Danon opened by describing a series of anti-Israel resolutions and initiatives on the international scene, including efforts to have Jerusalem’s Temple Mount declared an exclusively

Muslim holy place. For all, all of this was “just another day at the UN... I have been here just six weeks. It feels like six years.” Recounting some of the most recent incidents of Palestinian Arab terrorism in Israel, in the form of stabbings and car attacks, he declared: “If our enemies are testing our resolve, they will fail. We overcame suicide bombers, plane hijackings, mortar and rocket attacks — we’ll overcome stabbings.”

Danon criticized the use of the term “cycle of violence” and the way in which Palestinian Arab terrorism and Israel’s responses to it are treated as morally equivalent. He said: “Why does the UN call for ‘both sides’ to show restraint and call terrorism a ‘cycle of violence?’” Speaking of the international push for international observers on the Temple Mount, Danon went on to say, “Let me be clear: We will not permit an international presence on Har HaBayit [the Temple Mount] in Jerusalem, our eternal capital.”

The ambassador also decried the “obsession” over labeling Jewish products from Judea/Samaria and he illustrated the world’s absurd preoccupation with condemning Israel by noting the 20 UN resolutions devoted to Israel, as compared to the only three resolutions devoted to events in the rest of the world. He concluded, “Israel is a lighthouse in the storm, a beacon of stability. In 67 years, we have built an amazing country, from making the deserts bloom to launching satellites and startups. Without the support of the ZOA across the years, Israel would not be the place it is today. Thank you for your unconditional love and support. With your love and support we will prevail.”

Susan Tuchman, Director of ZOA’s Center for Law and Justice

Susan Tuchman, director of ZOA’s Center for Law and Justice, recounted the myriad ways in which the ZOA fights for the rights and protections of Jewish students at campuses across the country, especially now, in the face of the ugly, intimidating, and violent activism of the so-called Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP). Said Tuchman: “The goal of SJP is not about securing any sort of justice for Palestinian Arabs; it’s about bashing Israel and Jews. There has been a truly frightening escalation of intimidation and vio-

lence against Jewish students, including repeated calls by the SJP for an Intifada. Everyone here tonight knows what an Intifada is. The SJP is inciting a terror war against Jews. A Jewish student in California was physically assaulted who, ironically, was from France. He moved here thinking that he'd be free from the anti-Semitism in his own country. At an SJP rally in New York, there were cries of 'Death to Zionists' and 'Zionists go home'—and we all know that 'Zionist' is code for Jews. This hatred and bigotry and promotion of violence is simply unacceptable. These groups must be condemned and held to account for making an environment of hate for Jewish students." Tuchman recounted examples of firm action taken by college administrators when blacks and women were the targets: "We at ZOA are working hard to ensure that college administrators respond with the same vigor and force where Jewish students are concerned."

Brandeis Award Recipient Jack Halpern

ZOA National President Morton A. Klein presented the Brandeis Award to Jack Halpern, noting that Mr. Halpern's philanthropic support for Israel "knows no limits. Jack Halpern is active on Capitol Hill, supporting those who understand the importance of a strong Israel. Jack learned from his extraordinary father—also a Brandeis Award recipient—and in fact became like him, a zealous defender of Jews and Israel everywhere."

Mr. Halpern spoke of Israel's extraordinary achievements, its emergence from scarcity and limited means at the time of its establishment to a \$200 billion economy today, its world leadership in new industries and intelligence, unmanned vehicles, and cutting edge scientific innovation. He also spoke of Israel's preparations to welcome 100,000 French Jews. Mr. Halpern spoke of other international developments, including the fact that there is great support and admiration for Israel in India, and that in seven years India will become the most populous country in the world. He also noted that he had started out as a supporter of the Oslo Accords but that ensuing events caused him, as he put it, "to examine his assumptions." He noted that Yasser Arafat had praised the Mufti of Jerusalem—Haj Amin al-Husseini,

Ambassador Danon: "Without the support of the ZOA across the years, Israel would not be the place it is today. Thank you for your unconditional love and support. With your love and support, we will prevail."

Hitler's collaborator—as a role model, and that he had concluded from the Palestinian Arab recourse to violence, terrorism, and incitement that "Palestinians are not ready—and may never be ready—for peace." Mr. Halpern concluded that peace can only come if Palestinian Arabs understand and accept the Jewish people's claim to the land, a land that is "Jewish by every conceivable criterion."

Jon Voight, Recipient of the Sheldon and Dr. Miriam Adelson Defender of Israel Award

Former U.S. Congresswoman Michele Bachmann introduced her close friend Jon Voight, saying: "The Jewish people, the chosen people, gave mankind the law through Moses, and by extension, they gave culture and society that continue to give the world life, peace, and mercy today. As a Christian, I owe the Jewish people my thanks and undying appreciation and loyalty, which I give today unconditionally." Ms. Bachmann described Mr. Voight as not only the deserving winner of the highest awards of the film and television industries but also a "true intellectual, with a great heart and generosity of spirit, who has demonstrated that rarest of qualities, courage...Jon Voight has shown unyielding support for Israel and the Jew-

BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER



Young professionals showing their love for ZOA and Israel

“After the Holocaust, when the world’s sympathies were with the Jews, the world came along at the UN in a surprising — you might say, miraculous — manner and offered statehood, and the Jews took it.”
Jon Voight

ish people...[He] wrote and published and went on national TV to make an impassioned defense of both the Jewish state and the Jewish people.” She applauded the ZOA for wisely choosing “a Churchill, in support of the Jewish people and the Jewish State.”

Sheldon and Dr. Miriam Adelson presented the Sheldon and Dr. Miriam Adelson Defender of Israel Award to Mr. Voight. First, Mr. Adelson thanked Morton Klein for his praiseworthy introduction of the Adelsons, saying that Mort “is the reason that ZOA has made such great progress in its growth and effectiveness in fighting for Israel and Jews,” and that he hoped that “Mort would continue to lead ZOA for many, many more years to come.” He described Jon Voight as a “giant among righteous gentiles and an extraordinary defender of Israel,” adding: “Your powerful words speaking the truth about the jihadist war against Jews and Christians inspire us all.”

Mr. Voight thanked the ZOA and the Adelsons for presenting him with this great honor, noting that attending this ZOA dinner with “the greatest philanthropists and protectors of Israel” was “more than humbling.” Mr. Voight recounted some seminal events in the past century leading to the creation of the State of Israel in 1948. “After

the Holocaust, when the world’s sympathies were with the Jews, the world came along at the UN in a surprising—you might say, miraculous—manner and offered statehood, and the Jews took it. The Arabs were also offered statehood but turned it down. Why did they refuse it? They weren’t going to share anything with the Jewish people, and that remains their position today.” Mr. Voight spoke of Israel’s remarkable achievements amid so many travails, succeeding in establishing the most democratic and humane government in the Middle East. The many concessions Israel made under Oslo as well as the Gaza withdrawal were some of “the biggest mistakes Israel has made, and it will be no mystery what will happen if they give up Judea/Samaria.”

Ambassador Ron Dermer, Recipient of the Dr. Bob Shillman Award for Outstanding Pro-Israel Diplomacy

Dr. Bob Shillman introduced Ambassador Ron Dermer, recipient of the Dr. Bob Shillman Award for Outstanding Pro-Israel Diplomacy. Dr. Bob paid tribute to Dermer’s eloquence and brilliance in making the case for Israel, speaking the truth about the Arab/Muslim war on Is-

rael's existence as a Jewish state.

Ambassador Dermer opened by praising the ZOA as the “conscience of the Jewish community” and Jon Voight as “the conscience of Hollywood.” He stated that the great world conflict, in which many countries, including Israel, are under attack, requires that in order to win, we correctly identify the enemy, which he called “militant Islam.” He warned of a global network of disparate Muslim terrorist groups waging a relentless war to create a world where “women are chattel, gays are hanged, and minorities are either eliminated or persecuted”—and one where Israel and the U.S. do not exist. At the same time, Dermer rejected the idea that the “problem is Islam itself...Faiths tend to be very malleable things. They get interpreted in different ways at different times. For most of the last 1,400 years, Islam was much more tolerant to minorities than Christianity was. Jews, of all people, should know this.”

But in the 21st century, Dermer said, “it is not only important to define the enemy, it is important to defeat the enemy,” noting critically that the world was shocked by the recent ISIS terrorist massacres in Paris, yet rationalizes Palestinian Arab terrorism against Israel. The ambassador also observed that the oft-heard explanation that Middle Eastern terrorism stems from poverty and suffering bears little relation to reality, noting the fact that most terrorists come from educated, middle-class backgrounds. He also strongly criticized the bias that underpins claims that what is happening in Israel amounts to a “cycle of violence,” explaining with some shocking examples the use of media and cartoons to inculcate hatred and extremism in Palestinian Arab children within the Palestinian Authority and Hamas-controlled Gaza. Ambassador Dermer also praised the ZOA, saying: “If there is one organization that represents the indomitable spirit of the Jewish people, it’s the ZOA. This is an organization that stands for something—and I’m deeply humbled by your decision to give me this award.”

ZOA National President Morton Klein

Delivering the evening’s concluding address, ZOA President Morton Klein focused on the importance of Jews speaking the truth and fearlessly

“...in the 21st century, it is not only important to define the enemy, it is important to defeat the enemy,”

Ambassador Ron Dermer

standing up for themselves. He cautioned that we must resolve to never again be “sha-shtil Jews of silence” who kept their heads down and simply hoped for the best while their enemies gathered. After quoting the Book of Ezekiel, which states that a watchman who doesn’t sound the alarm when the sword of the enemy advances will be accountable to G-d, Klein said: “The ZOA will continue to blow and blow and blow the horn to warn the Jewish people.” Klein referred to the terrorist attacks in Paris, noting that the world has avoided acknowledging that they are being carried out by the same type of radical Muslims who commit terror and murder against the Jews of Israel. Worldwide terror attacks in Paris, Mali, Nigeria, Israel, Spain, England, and Syria were carried out not by radical Buddhists, Hindus, Christians, or Jews, but by radical Muslims, Klein said. He appealed to President Obama: “Mr. President, please show us that you understand that. You haven’t done it yet.”

Klein said the situation in Israel has deteriorated to the point where people are afraid to walk the streets or go shopping; extraordinary measures are required to stop this Islamist horror. One such possibility, he said, is to consider requiring parents and siblings of Arab terrorists to publicly condemn these acts in Arabic and Hebrew—and if they fail to do so, to deport them. If terrorists knew their families would pay this heavy price, some might be deterred from carrying out their crimes, he said. Klein emphasized that all their parents and siblings would have to do is condemn the terrorist act and there would be no deportation.

Turning to the international situation, Klein rebutted the platitude that military force can-

BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER



Former U.S. Cong. Michele Bachmann; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Dr. Miriam Adelson and Sheldon Adelson; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President; Emcee Dr. Alan Mazurek, Vice Chair

***CLJ Director
Tuchman
recounted
examples of firm
action when
other minorities
were targeted.
“We at ZOA
are working
hard to ensure
that college
administrators
respond with
the same vigor
and force where
Jewish students
are concerned.”***

not defeat an ideology. “Those who say that one can’t defeat an ideology with military action are mistaken. That’s exactly how the allies destroyed Nazism during World War II. The Allies crushed Nazi Germany. After World War II, there was not a single German prepared to say that he believed in or supported Nazism. Military strength crushed Nazism, and it can destroy radical militant Islam and ISIS. ISIS threatens to blow up major cities in America. Yet I have to tell you—and it pains me to say so—the U.S. has done very little to destroy ISIS. Our President has placed severe restrictions on our soldiers, ruling out military action if it may kill a single civilian. With that philosophy and restriction, you can’t fight a war, and we will lose. ISIS makes \$500 million a year in oil revenues, using hundreds of trucks to deliver the oil. For 14 months, this President has refused to allow our forces to bomb those trucks. Why? Because they are driven by civilians! Thank G-d Obama finally allowed the bombing of the trucks this week. Additionally, we’re only doing seven to 15 bombings a day against ISIS, when our commanders are calling for hundreds of bombings a day.”

Klein also focused on the commonalities linking the radical Islamic terrorists: “When ISIS speaks in its communique after the Paris attacks of ‘holy martyrs murdering hundreds of pagans gathered for a concert of prostitution and vice,’ how is that any different from Mahmoud Abbas urging Palestinians

to sow violence against Jews for ‘defiling the Temple Mount with their filthy feet,’ saying that Jews are a dirty people who worship the devil, and praising Palestinian martyrs for their murderous attacks against Jews? But there is one difference: When they murder Jews, the world is silent. Vice President Joseph Biden this week spoke of the people murdered by terrorists in various parts of the world, but he never mentioned Israel. President Obama has spoken frequently of terrorist attacks, listing the many countries in the world in which it occurs, without mentioning Israel.”

Regarding the clamor to bring in refugees from Syria, Klein singled out the usual arguments made about helping those in need, pointing out that a percentage of those coming in are terrorists who want to murder Americans and Jews, and that many more support the actions of terrorists like ISIS. Pew polls show that 70 to 97 percent of Muslims in the 50 Muslim-majority countries have anti-Semitic and anti-Israel feelings. Klein observed that if a people from a certain society in another country sought entry as refugees and they were known to be, for example, vehemently anti-black, the issue of admitting them would raise serious concerns, as it should. Klein also elaborated on the myth that Jerusalem is holy to Muslims. He explained in detail why that is a propaganda myth. It is holy to Jews, not to Muslims.

Klein expressed the ZOA’s appreciation to Dr. Miriam and Sheldon Adelson for their “truly global philanthropy, for being the Rothschilds of our generation,” and for creating the Adelson Defender of Israel Award, whose previous recipients include Glenn Beck, former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, and Christian Zionist Pastor John Hagee. Before expressing heartfelt thanks for the Adelsons’ support and vision, Mr. Klein noted that Mr. Adelson was one of the very few recipients of the “Nobel Prize of Zionism,” the solid gold Theodore Herzl Medallion, which has been awarded to such giants as Winston Churchill, Yitzhak Shamir and Abba Eban.

Derek Silver, Recipient of the Myron Zimmerman Award for Student Pro-Israel Activism

ZOA also honored student activist Derek

BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER



Center for Law and Justice director, ZOA Campus coordinators and Government Relations professionals introduced by Emcee Dr. Alan Mazurek

Silver with the Myron Zimmerman Award for Student Pro-Israel Activism. Another high point were musical performances by the excellent Klezmer band and by the Maccabeats, Yeshiva University's a cappella group, who sang magnificently. ZOA Board member Dr. Alan Mazurek presided as emcee with his usual charm and wit.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Professor Alan Dershowitz

The night also featured taped remarks from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Alan Dershowitz, praising the ZOA and the honorees for their pro-Israel work. A last-minute addition to the program was Jonathan Pollard's attorney, Eliot Lauer, who lamented the onerous parole conditions Mr. Pollard is facing after his release from federal prison, after serving 30 years for spying for Israel. Pollard is only permitted to leave his place of residence from 7 am to 7 pm, among other restrictions.

The dinner was made possible through the hard work of the fabulous ZOA staff. In a special moment, thanks were extended to all of the ZOA campus professionals, government relations professionals, and three ZOA attorneys who work so hard to carry out the ZOA's mission. [ZOA](#)

“When ISIS speaks...of ‘holy martyrs murdering hundreds of pagans gathered for a concert of prostitution and vice,’ how is that any different from Mahmoud Abbas urging Palestinians to sow violence against Jews for ‘defiling the Temple Mount with their filthy feet?’”

ZOA President Morton A. Klein



Myron Zimmerman; Brian Albert; Zach Stern; Leore Ben-David; David Kadosh; Derek Silver, Zimmerman Awardee; Pandit Mami; Cesar Morales

Center for Law and Justice



On Facebook, the SJP calls for an Intifada at Brooklyn College

Center for Law and Justice: ZOA Continues The Fight Against Campus Anti-Semitism



SUSAN TUCHMAN
*Director, Center for
Law and Justice*

Jewish students continue to face threats, harassment, and intimidation on their college campuses, expressed in new and disturbing ways. At several schools, the hate group known as Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) has been inciting violence against Jews and Israel by calling for another Intifada, the term used for the violent and murderous Palestinian Arab terror war against Jews in Israel. During the second Intifada in Israel, from 2000 to 2005, almost 2,000 people were murdered and 10,000 maimed.

Not only are SJP and like-minded groups promoting their hateful views about Israel by saying they have the First Amendment right to say and do whatever they wish, despite the harmful impact on Jewish and pro-Israel students; these groups are

also trying to silence those who exercise their own free speech rights to challenge the hateful rhetoric and express their support for Israel.

ONGOING PROBLEMS AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE

SJP has a history of harassing and intimidating Jewish students at Brooklyn College. In 2013, an SJP leader ejected four Jewish students — two wearing kippahs and one a known pro-Israel activist — from an anti-Israel BDS event. The SJP leader then lied about the ejection, falsely claiming that the four Jewish students were interrupting the event. An investigation ordered by the City University of New York (CUNY) confirmed that the Jewish students were likely removed be-

cause they disagreed with SJP's views – a violation of the Jewish students' right to free speech and association. After several fruitless informal efforts to redress the ejected students' injuries, the ZOA filed a civil rights complaint against Brooklyn College under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. The U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) agreed to investigate the ZOA's Title VI complaint concerning the eviction. The parties agreed to engage in OCR's early complaint resolution process (essentially a mediation), which resulted in the president of Brooklyn College publicly apologizing to the four Jewish students by name, admitting the wrongdoing of Brooklyn College employees, and acknowledging that the students were ejected probably because they held views contrary to those of the SJP. Brooklyn College also created new policies for student-run events so that the problems connected to the BDS event would not be repeated.

In October 2014, SJP continued to promote its anti-Israel views, holding a "die-in," chalking demonizing anti-Israel messages on the public sidewalk adjacent to Brooklyn College, and posting a Facebook message inciting violence against Jews. SJP called for "The Third Intifada," with the threat to "Expect Resistance." Also, in a nose-thumbing gesture to the administration and its rules calling for mutual respect and civility, SJP posted the following message on Facebook: "F—k your politics of civility."

After students reported feeling harassed and intimidated as the result of SJP's actions, the ZOA wrote to Brooklyn College President Karen Gould, urging that remedial steps be taken. The ZOA pointed out that SJP's chalking violated New York City law, which prohibits writing and defacing public property, including sidewalks. The ZOA also urged the president to open a full investigation into SJP's conduct and, if the evidence showed that SJP violated college rules, to revoke the group's registered status. The ZOA wrote: "This group does not deserve a place on the Brooklyn College campus until it can conform its conduct to the rules and standards that apply to everyone else."

In addition, the ZOA urged President Gould to require student groups to undergo mandatory training on anti-Semitism and other forms

of bigotry, in the same way that CUNY presently requires training related to sexual misconduct. Furthermore, the ZOA called on President Gould to publicly state that there would be zero tolerance for anti-Semitism at Brooklyn College and to educate the campus community about the many forms that anti-Semitism takes today, referring specifically to the definition of anti-Semitism that the U.S. State Department has been using for years. That definition is important because it makes it clear that anti-Israelism and anti-Zionism can be manifestations of anti-Semitism.

In response, Brooklyn College informed ZOA that it has informed security personnel that they must be alert to any conflicts or escalating tensions between students and to call their supervisors immediately. The college acknowledged that SJP's chalking was illegal under New York City ordinances. Students and student groups are being notified that this activity is illegal and is not protected speech under the First Amendment. The college also intends to include mandatory diversity training for all student clubs, to educate them that in expressing their views, they should be mindful and tolerant of students with different racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds.

These steps are important, but more needs to be done. The ZOA is continuing its efforts to ensure that Brooklyn College is a welcoming and respectful learning environment for Jewish and pro-Israel students.

CONTINUING PROBLEMS AT UC BERKELEY

SJP also has a history of creating a hostile environment for Jewish students at the University of California, Berkeley. For example, in March 2010, the leader of SJP physically assaulted a Jewish student, ramming her from behind with a full shopping cart and causing injuries to her back and ankle that required medical attention. The attack was completely unprovoked; the student was simply holding a sign that read "Israel Wants Peace."

More recently, in October 2015, SJP held what it called an International Day of Action in the center of the campus. After almost one hour of ugly and vicious anti-Israel speeches by SJP members, the group's leader took over. Using a microphone so that his words were amplified and

ZOA to Brooklyn College: The SJP does not deserve a place on the Brooklyn College campus until it can conform its conduct to the rules and standards that apply to everyone else.

Using a microphone so that his words were amplified and could be widely heard, the SJP leader riled up the crowd, encouraging them to repeat his chant, "Intifada, Intifada, we support the Intifada!" The crowd responded with enthusiasm, creating a chilling scene.

could be widely heard, the SJP leader riled up the crowd, encouraging them to repeat his chant, "Intifada, Intifada, we support the Intifada!" The crowd responded with enthusiasm, creating a chilling scene.

A Jewish student who attended the rally heard the SJP leader's call for violence against Jews and was shocked — and afraid. He had come from France to study at Berkeley, ironically having left his homeland in part to get away from the unbearable anti-Semitism there and build a new life in the U.S. He was stunned to witness blatant anti-Semitism and the incitement of violence against Jews on an American college campus that supposedly values respect, tolerance, diversity, and peacefulness.

The Jewish student's fear grew when he was suddenly confronted and assaulted by an SJP supporter at the rally. While the student was holding an Israeli flag and a pro-Israel sign, the SJP supporter told him that he should be ashamed as a Jew to support Israel, and falsely accused the Jewish student of being "a child murderer."

Aghast at these accusations, the Jewish student was nevertheless determined to reply constructively and peacefully. Before he could do so, the SJP supporter vulgarly told the Jewish student to "F--k off" and that the Jewish student "disgusted" him, and he demanded that the Jewish student leave the rally. The Jewish student knew that he had every right to remain at the rally and was determined to stay and resist the SJP supporter's threatening and intimidating behavior. He put his sign in front of the SJP supporter, to show that he was not scared and that he was not going to leave.

The SJP supporter became violent, grabbing for the sign to try to destroy it and pushing the Jewish student, who defended himself by pushing back. Then the Jewish student's fiancée arrived and asked him to let the matter go, which he did.

The Jewish student filed a complaint with the university, describing in detail the incitement of violence at the rally against Jews, the verbal and physical attack he endured, and the fear he feels for his physical safety as a Jew and a supporter of Israel at UC Berkeley. The ZOA wrote twice to the chancellor of UC Berkeley, calling on him to speak out and condemn the SJP's call for violence against Jews and to investigate the SJP for appar-

ent violations of the Code of Student Conduct. To date, the chancellor has refused to take these reasonable steps.

PROBLEMS AT HUNTER COLLEGE

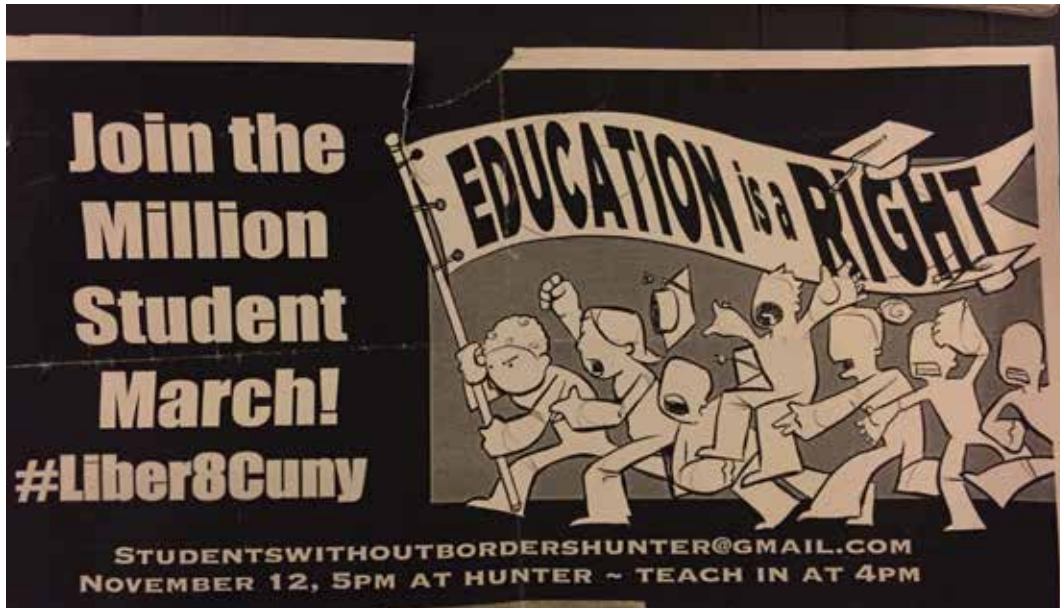
The ZOA also is assisting Jewish students at Hunter College after SJP and its allies held a rally at the college last November, as part of a nationwide campaign for free public college tuition and the cancellation of all student debt (the so-called Million Student March). Instead of uniting the campus community behind addressing the serious financial challenges that students are facing, SJP turned the rally into a hateful and divisive demonstration that viciously attacked Israel, "Zionists," and Jews.

Dozens of demonstrators screamed and chanted at the rally, "Long live the Intifada!" and "There is only one solution: Intifada revolution!" They yelled such invectives as "Zionists go home!" "Zionists out of CUNY!" "Jews out of CUNY!" "Jews are racist sons of bitches!" "I hope someone gets y'all!" and "When we take control of CUNY, we are gonna kick you out and make sure you don't graduate!"

Besides inciting violence and encouraging anti-Semitic hatred, SJP members tried to shut down dissenting views at the rally. They tried to block and destroy Jewish students' signs, which supported lower tuition but rejected the SJP's hateful messages about Zionism and Israel. One Jewish student's sign was ripped from his hands and trampled. Another Jewish student had paper thrown at her, and the Israeli flag wrapped around her shoulders was pulled off.

As a result of SJP's actions at the rally, many Jewish students no longer feel welcome, accepted, or safe at Hunter College. Some students are afraid for anyone to know that they are Jewish and support Israel. They will not wear a Star of David or anything else that would expose who they are and what they believe for fear of negative, possibly dangerous consequences.

The president of Hunter College, the president of Undergraduate Student Government, and the chair of the Hunter College Senate issued a joint statement the day after the rally, which was posted on the college's website. It "strongly condemn[ed]" the anti-Semitic comments made



Hunter College rally for free tuition turned into a demonstration attacking Israel, "Zionists" and Jews

at the rally and affirmed that “there is no place for hate speech and other acts of bigotry, harassment, intimidation, exclusion and intolerance based on an individual’s beliefs and backgrounds.” But the statement did not condemn or even mention the SJP, which perpetrated the anti-Semitic bigotry, nor was there any indication that the SJP would be investigated for possible violation of Hunter rules and policies.

The SJP’s incitement of violence against Jews at Hunter College, UC Berkeley, and Brooklyn College is no different from the incitement of violence against African Americans and other targeted groups. When other groups are targeted, university leaders respond forcefully, as they should.

For example, last spring at the University of Oklahoma, members of a fraternity were riding on a bus singing chants that used the “n” word and referred to lynching. The president of the University of Oklahoma wasted no time in imposing harsh consequences: Two students were expelled because of, as the president wrote, their “leadership role in leading a racist and exclusionary chant which has created a hostile educational environment for others.” In addition, the entire

fraternity was shut down, even though the incident involved some but not all of the fraternity members.

At the University of California, San Diego, a fraternity held an off-campus party in February 2010 and invited students to dress as stereotypes of African-Americans. The chancellor of the university immediately condemned the fraternity’s actions. In a separate campus incident, a noose was found hanging in the library. The student responsible — herself a minority — publicly apologized and said the act was a mindless mistake and not racially motivated. Yet she was suspended. Notwithstanding these remedial measures, the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education initiated an investigation into complaints of racial harassment at UC San Diego. The investigation resulted in the university entering into a voluntary agreement to undertake systemic changes to resolve the harassment allegations.

Universities have responded forcefully to the harassment of women, as well. Yale punished students and shut down a fraternity for offensive chants against women. Though a private university, it has committed itself to pro-

Dozens of demonstrators screamed and chanted “Long live the Intifada!” and yelled such invectives as “Zionists go home!” and “Jews out of CUNY!” The double standard must stop. University leaders must respond to bigotry against Jewish students with the same vigor they show when other groups are targeted.

The ZOA spearheaded a letter to University of Michigan President Mark Schlissel, urging him to publicly affirm that the Jewish student acted appropriately in exercising his First Amendment freedoms, which every student at the university enjoys.



Univ. of Michigan President Mark Schlissel has refused to take reasonable steps proposed by ZOA and other partnering groups

protecting free expression.

The double standard must stop. University leaders must respond to bigotry against Jewish students with the same vigor they show when other groups are targeted.

MORE PROBLEMS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Almost two years ago, the anti-Israel student group known as Students Allied for Freedom and Equality (SAFE) pushed an anti-Israel divestment resolution at the University of Michigan. SAFE's action created such a hostile campus environment that both Jewish and non-Jewish students feared for their safety. More recently, in November, SAFE harassed and threatened a Jewish student simply because he exercised his free speech rights and challenged SAFE's anti-Israel display in the center of the campus. Although the target was one student, SAFE's actions no doubt had an impact on other students who might disagree with SAFE's anti-Israel views, but will now surely think twice before speaking up.

SAFE's display attacking Israel was set up on the very day that two terrorist attacks in Israel resulted in the deaths of several innocent civilians, including Ezra Schwartz, an American Jewish student studying in Israel during a gap year. Upon seeing the display, a Jewish student expressed his concern to SAFE members about its timing and appropriateness. SAFE claimed that the Jewish student was aggressive, hateful, and harassing and called for his removal from his position in student government for alleged ethics violations. SAFE's claims were false, as illustrated by a video of the interaction, taken by a SAFE member. The video shows that the Jewish student spoke passionately, but respectfully. Not a single student looks alarmed or upset in the video. One female student in the video casually walks near the camera, smiling.

Rather than immediately reject SAFE's false claims against the Jewish student, the student government indulged them, calling for an ethics investigation into the Jewish student's conduct. Ultimately, the ethics committee reached the right conclusion, finding that the Jewish student had not committed any ethics violations. But the damage had been done. Having endured an unjust in-

Rather than immediately reject SAFE's false claims against the Jewish student, the student government indulged them, calling for an ethics investigation into the Jewish student's conduct.



UM Divest sit-in at University of Michigan sponsored by the anti-Israel group Students Allied for Freedom and Equality (SAFE)

quisition, the Jewish student would now surely think twice before again exercising his right to object to SAFE's anti-Israel actions. And other students—particularly those who are Jewish and support Israel—have received the message that they too could be persecuted if they decide to challenge Israel-bashers in the future.

The ZOA spearheaded a letter to university President Mark Schlissel, urging him to publicly affirm that the Jewish student acted appropriately in exercising his First Amendment freedoms, which every student enjoys at the university; and to call on the student government and SAFE to issue a full public apology to the Jewish student, recognizing that he was

exercising his free speech rights, which should not have put his student government position in question. Eight national organizations joined with the ZOA and co-signed the letter, including StandWithUs, the Simon Wiesenthal Center (Campus Outreach), Scholars for Peace in the Middle East, the Brandeis Center, the Lawfare Project, the American Center for Law and Justice, the American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, and Amcha Initiative.

To date, President Schlissel has failed to issue any statement critical of the efforts to chill the free speech rights of a Jewish student or to affirm the right of all students to speak up and challenge anti-Israel actions on campus. [ZOA](#)

Government Relations Department



Iranian M-302 rockets

Government Relations Warns Washington to Limit Iran Deal Damage and Keep the PA at Bay



JOSH LONDON
*Co-Director,
Government Relations
Department*



DAN POLLAK
*Co-Director,
Government Relations
Department*

IRAN

The ZOA Government Relations Department's highest priority has been to mitigate and reverse the 2015 Iran deal. Formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the plan has been implemented by the Obama administration despite the fact that no one in the U.S. government has signed the agreement, Congress has not ratified it, and — according to their spokesman — it is considered by the administration to be a “nonbinding political commitment.” Following Congress' failure to block the agreement in September 2015, Iran has embarked on a series of actions that show utter contempt for the international community, and the U.S. in particular.

Iran has test-fired two ballistic missiles designed to carry nuclear warheads, in clear violation of UN Security Council Resolution 2231; incredibly, the administration has acted as an attorney for Iran, insisting that this does not violate the JCPOA. At the time the deal was announced, Secretary of State John Kerry stated that ballistic missile restrictions were part of the agreement.

Not only has Iran not released U.S. hostages, since the agreement was reached it has taken

two more Americans hostage. Iran has failed to reveal the details of past work on nuclear weapons. Nonetheless, the U.S. has voted, along with the rest of the participants in the JCPOA, to accept Iranian stonewalling despite the findings of an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report that Iran's work on nuclear weapons may have continued up to and past 2009, and that the Iranians refused to cooperate with their investigation. As part of this report, the Iranians were allowed to conduct their own unverified and unsupervised inspections.

It is now claimed that most of the low-enriched uranium has been sent out of Iran to Russia. But when critics demanded specifics, it was revealed that no international observers, except Russia, can verify the amount of uranium shipped out of the country. In late December, the Iranians launched a missile that landed within 1,500 yards of a U.S. aircraft carrier that was transiting the Strait of Hormuz. The U.S. has taken no action against Iran for these provocations.

While various members of Congress have reacted with fury to Iran's provocations, Congress has not effectively countered the Obama administration's passive approach. As of this writing,

JCPOA's "implementation day" is expected to be imminent. Once that day arrives, the \$100 billion to \$150 billion in Iranian assets currently frozen around the world will be released to the Iranians. Whatever leverage we theoretically now have over Iranian behavior will instantly be reduced to near zero, and until President Obama reverses himself, or until there is a new president, Iran will be free to continue its practice of developing the infrastructure to make nuclear weapons without sanction from the West.

Most Democratic senators and congressmen pretend to believe that Iran will observe the JCPOA in good faith and are currently unwilling to take action that would pressure Iran. A small number of Democrats seem to realize that more robust action is needed, but so far they have limited their activities to writing letters to the President, in lieu of actual legislation. GOP members of Congress are also divided: a small number have taken the lead in proposing new sanctions, while the leadership, particularly in the Senate, seems to value castigating Democrats for their votes in support of the President's policies over actually moving forward with legislation to force new sanctions on the Iranians. This could change quickly, particularly since GOP presidential candidates Senators Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz advocate action on this issue. ZOA is working hard to advocate for new sanctions. It is quite possible that the Iranians would react quite strongly to new sanctions and possibly even withdraw from the deal.

As 2016 begins, congressional investigations are just getting underway into the apparent use of U.S. intelligence services to spy on Congress and Jewish organizations during the fight to stop the Iran deal. If the scope of this domestic spying is as broad as initial press reports indicate, many members of Congress from both parties could be highly insulted and motivated to enact more robust sanctions against Iran over the objections of the administration.

LIMITING AID TO THE PA

The Government Relations Department also continues to focus on our other regular legislative priorities of ending aid to the Palestinian Authority (PA) and making any future aid contingent upon their fulfilling their many interim peace ac-

The almost daily Arab stabbing attacks, car attacks, and shootings in Israel are directly attributable to PA incitement. The U.S. has done nothing to hold Mahmoud Abbas, now enjoying the 11th year of his four-year term, accountable for his barbaric statements encouraging the attacks.

cord obligations. These include ending the promotion of hatred and violence against Jews and Israel in Palestinian Arab schools, media, speeches, and children's camps. We continue to be vigilant in educating Congress about the ongoing Arab war against Israel and to communicate ZOA's insights and reactions to the news of the day. The almost daily Arab stabbing attacks, car attacks against pedestrians, and shootings in Israel are directly attributable to PA incitement. The U.S. has done nothing to hold Mahmoud Abbas, now enjoying the eleventh year of his four-year term, accountable for his barbaric statements encouraging the attacks.

In the past year, ZOA's educational efforts helped to create and firmly maintain a bipartisan climate of distrust of the PA's intentions, and active concern over the disbursement and use of U.S. financial aid to the PA. There has been the usual spate of congressional letters, periodic congressional editorials, draft legislation, and introduced-but-unsuccessful legislation. But, far more substantively, the annual budget bill, H.R. 2029, or the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016" (Public Law No: 114-113), establishes some red lines on Palestinian Arab conduct. It continues to hold the line on the many and varied limitations on assistance to the PA related to its ongoing sup-

ZOA grassroots activism— particularly our annual D.C. Pro-Israel Capitol Hill Mission and our relentless campaigning against the Iran deal—helps to underscore that at the heart of all of Government Relations’ efforts stands the dedication, passionate advocacy, and deep knowledge of ZOA members across the country.

port for terror and incitement, or effective control by Hamas. Further, the spending bill:

– bars any funding for the PA if they successfully pursue membership in the UN without an agreement between the parties, and requires that any particular UN agency be defunded if they admit the PA as if it were a state. Pressure by President Obama to reverse the funding ban on UNESCO (the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) did not make it into the bill, and ZOA was involved in the effort to stop the administration on this point;

– bars any funding for the PA if they initiate or actively support an International Criminal Court (ICC) inquiry that subjects Israeli nationals to an investigation for alleged crimes against Palestinian Arabs. Unfortunately, for national security purposes, the Secretary of State has authority to waive the ban on assistance to the PA; – further limits the President’s ability to waive the longstanding law barring the PA from having a PLO diplomatic Mission Office in the U.S., if the PA unilaterally pursues statehood at the UN or moves forward with an ICC investigation.

The spending bill also requires the Secretary of State to reduce “Economic Support Fund” aid for the PA “equivalent to the amount expended by the Palestinian Authority as payments for acts of terrorism by individuals who are imprisoned after being fairly tried and convicted for acts of terrorism and by individuals who died committing acts of terrorism during the previous calendar year.”


The bill also increases funding for Israel’s missile-defense-related programs. This includes \$55 million for Iron Dome; \$286,526,000 for the Short Range Ballistic Missile Defense (SRBMD) program; \$89,550,000 for David’s Sling, an upper-tier component to the Israeli Missile Defense Architecture; and \$56,519,000 for the Arrow system. There is also \$40 million for a cooperative program improving Israel’s tunnel-detection systems, in order to find and counter terrorist networks. This comes with the usual provision allowing a portion of the funding to be “transferred to appropriations available for the procurement of weapons and equipment” (aka Foreign Military Funding).

ZOA’s educational efforts to raise awareness of the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS)

campaigns against Israel helped facilitate adoption of anti-BDS language in H.R. 644, the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015, aka the Customs Bill, which directs the U.S. Trade Representative, or USTR, to discourage European Union member countries from boycotting “Israel or persons doing business in Israel or Israeli-controlled territories” during ongoing free-trade negotiations between the U.S. and the EU.

Related to this is H.R. 567, a non-binding bipartisan House resolution “expressing opposition to the European Commission interpretive notice regarding labeling Israeli products and goods manufactured in the West Bank and other areas, as such actions undermine efforts to achieve a negotiated Israeli-Palestinian peace process.” As of this writing, this resolution is set to steadily advance in the House. Though merely symbolic, its chief benefit is to further enhance congressional understanding of the legitimacy of Israel’s presence in Judea and Samaria.

In addition to dealing with our elected officials, the Government Relations Department interacts with other Jewish and Christian Zionist organizations in Washington and elsewhere. For example, in conjunction with ZOA’s Center for Law and Justice, we continue to pursue opportunities to team with other Jewish groups to combat BDS; to enforce appropriate content to Title VI Department of Education grants to Middle Eastern Studies departments; and to press the U.S. Department of Education to enforce anti-discrimination laws to protect Jewish students at federally funded universities. We work closely with our regional directors and with ZOA Israel Director Jeff Daube. We also participate in meetings, public forums, and policy discussions with foreign policy and political professionals and continue to engage in print and broadcast media opportunities to spread the word on ZOA’s issues.

ZOA grassroots activism — particularly our annual D.C. Pro-Israel Capitol Hill Mission and our relentless campaigning against the Iran deal — helps to underscore that at the heart of all of Government Relations’ efforts stands the dedication, passionate advocacy, and deep knowledge of ZOA members across the country. Please continue to stay involved in the grassroots advocacy that is so critical to our being effective in Washington. 

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- ➔ **In this time of increasing hostility to Israel** personally lobby members of Congress on issues of vital interest to Israel's security
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- ➔ **SPECIAL** Student Discounts online

Brandeis Award Dinner Pictorial



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1. Jack Halpern, Brandeis Awardee accepts his award
2. Myron Zimmerman, ZOA National Vice President ; David Kadosh, California Executive Director; Derek Silver, Zimmerman Awardee; Pandit Mami, Midwest Campus Coordinator
3. Judith Taylor; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Andi Schneider
4. Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Dr. Arthur Kook, ZOA Board Member
5. Former U.S. Cong. Michele Bachmann; James Pollak, ZOA Vice President
6. Harley Lippman, Dinner Co-Chair
7. Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Aaron Ross; Former U.S. Cong. Michele Bachmann; Kevin Ross, ZOA Philadelphia Co-President
8. Dr. Ben Chouake, ZOA National Vice President and President of NORPAC, introduces Morton A. Klein, ZOA President

Brandeis Award Dinner Pictorial

1. Myron Zimmerman, ZOA National Vice President; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President;

2. Morton A. Klein, ZOA President; Global Philanthropists Sheldon Adelson and Dr. Miriam Adelson

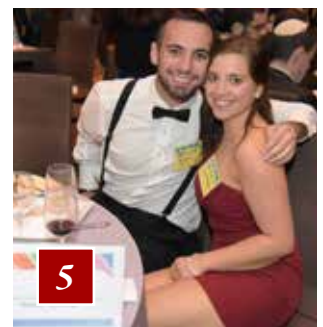
3. Howard Katzoff, ZOA Director of Development; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Patti Klein

4. Stanley Rosenberg, ZOA National Vice President; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Judith Rosenberg

5. Young professionals enjoying the Brandeis Award Dinner

6. Karen Mazurek; Emcee Dr. Alan Mazurek, ZOA Vice-Chair; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Dr. Michael Goldblatt, ZOA Chairman of the Board; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President; Senator Ed Royce (R-CA); James Pollak, ZOA Board Member

7. Emcee Dr. Alan Mazurek, ZOA Vice-Chair, introducing the dinner speakers



Brandeis Award Dinner Pictorial



1. Jack Halpern, Brandeis Awardee; Mort Klein, ZOA President; Emcee Dr. Alan Mazurek, Vice Chair; Global Philanthropists Sheldon Adelson and Dr. Miriam Adelson

2. Hon. Danny Danon, Israel's United Nations Ambassador

3. Daniel Mandel, Director of ZOA's Center for Middle East Policy; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Kevin Ross, ZOA Philadelphia Co-President

4. Gene Shusman, ZOA Vice President; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Fran Shusman

5. Professor Alan Dershowitz, Zuckerman Awardee

6. Global Philanthropists Sheldon Adelson and Dr. Miriam Adelson; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee



Brandeis Award Dinner Pictorial



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1. Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; U.S. Senator Ed Royce (R-CA); U.S. Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO)
2. Gladys Halpern; Jack Halpern, Brandeis Awardee; Rachel Halpern
3. Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Dr. Miriam Adelson and Sheldon Adelson introduce Jon Voight; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President
4. Shoshana Sokol; Martin Sokol, ZOA Vice President; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Former U.S. Cong. Michele Bachmann; Daniel Mandel, Director of ZOA's Center for Middle East Policy
5. Sylvia Freyer, ZOA Board Member; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President
6. Director of Development, Howard Katzoff; James Pollak, Vice President; Former U.S. Cong. Michele Bachmann; David Drimer, National Executive Director
7. Former U.S. Cong. Michele Bachmann; Len Getz, ZOA Board member; Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee

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Boston, MA)*

ZOA Campus: At 120 campuses and counting, ZOA's college presence is greater than ever

ZOA CAMPUS OVERVIEW

ZOA Campus continued its achievements throughout the fall of 2015. After building a presence on 100 college campuses last spring, campus coordinators extended the ZOA's reach to 120 schools this past fall, including nearly 120 events at these schools, signaling the largest ZOA campus presence to date.

ZOA's campus coordinators traveled throughout the country to lead events about Zionism and Israel, and worked with students to run effective programs to promote the Jewish State and fight anti-Semitism. Events included training in advocacy and Krav Maga and discussions on Palestinian Arab incitement and terrorism, Jewish history in Israel, the wars in Gaza, and more. Staff and student leaders worked to invite prominent speakers including Arab Zionists, Christian Zionists, and advocacy training professionals.

DRUZE ZIONISTS COMBAT MISTREATMENT MYTHS

The most successful initiative of ZOA Campus this fall was a cross-country tour of U.S. campuses by a delegation of Israeli Druze Zionists. Six members of the Israeli Druze community toured a dozen campuses to discuss their support of Israel and to help combat the myths spread about Israel's alleged mistreatment of its Arab citizens. The delegates included IDF officers, doctors, a police officer, and a journalist. This initiative allowed students to hear about Israel from a new and powerful perspective, never before available on campus. We hope to continue this initiative in future semesters.

ZOA GALA DINNER

ZOA Campus created one of the largest gatherings of pro-Israel students in the country, drawing hundreds of student leaders to the Louis D. Brandeis Gala Dinner in New York City. The students helped the national organization celebrate ZOA's accomplishments while networking to create ideas for effective campus programming. Student tickets sold out in two weeks, demonstrating that the ZOA Gala Dinner has become one of the most popular events in



Mission to Israel students visit the Jordan Valley

the nation for Zionist students.

ZOA Campus thanks members of the ZOA National Board and other donors who, through their generosity, made it possible for so many dedicated student leaders to attend the Gala Dinner.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP MISSION TO ISRAEL

The 2015-2016 Student Leadership Mission to Israel proved to be a major success. ZOA Campus took 38 student leaders from across the country, educating and training them to become more effective advocates for the Jewish State. This year's trip consisted of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Zionists who experienced Israel from a perspective only seen on the ZOA Mission.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE TRIP

Students traveled extensively in Judea and Samaria to learn first-hand about Jewish roots in the

area, to help them combat the myths spread on campus about Judea and Samaria.

In Ariel, students spoke with Jews and Palestinian Arabs who work together peacefully. They learned from Arab employees why BDS is harmful to Palestinian Arabs and why they would rather work in Israel than under the Palestinian Authority. Students also saw the reality on the ground in communities in Judea and Samaria and why "settlements" are not the obstacles to peace; rather, they are bridges to peace.

ZOA students spent Shabbat and stayed overnight with host families in Kfar Adumim, a small community east of Jerusalem in the Judean Hills. There they interacted with community members and experienced first-hand that the so-called settlers are nothing like the way in which they are portrayed in the media. Students learned that people living in these communities are normal and good, and also saw the strategic importance of keeping these communities and the surrounding areas under Israeli control.

ZOA Israel Director Jeff Daube led an in-depth tour of the "green line" in Jerusalem to show students that dividing Jerusalem is unethical

Six members of the Israeli Druze community toured a dozen campuses to discuss their support of Israel and to help combat the myths spread about Israel's alleged mistreatment of its Arab citizens.



ZOA student leaders played with kindergarteners in Sderot

***Students saw for themselves
the reality on the ground in the
communities in Judea and Samaria,
and why the so-called settlements are
not the obstacles to peace; rather, they
are bridges to peace.***

and unrealistic. Students learned that everyone is better off when all of Jerusalem is under Israeli control.

Students met with Muslim and Christian Arab leaders in Israel to learn about the freedoms and opportunities available to Israel's minorities. This knowledge arms students with facts and personal stories, enabling students to combat myths about Israel's Arab population which are spread by groups such as J Street and Students for Justice in Palestine.

In the Jordan Valley, students heard from local community members. The speakers talked about co-existence with their Arab neighbors and how Israel must maintain control of this


important strip of land. They also spoke about the hypocrisy of the European Union's boycott of their products and how it hurts Palestinian Arab employees more than anyone else.

ZOA students visited a kindergarten in Sderot to interact with the children who have grown up living and going to school in bomb shelters. Students learned about the harsh realities in the area and heard kindergarteners' opinions. The children said that they do not hate all Arabs, despite rocket attacks on their community. This was an exceptionally powerful moment for the students, as they saw first-hand the sharp contrast between the Israeli education system (which does not promote hatred of Arabs) and the Palestinian Arab education system (which demonizes Israelis and Jews). After visiting, ZOA students donated toys to the children.

In the north, students learned about the strategic and historical importance of maintaining the Golan Heights. They also discussed the security situation in Syria and Lebanon and how that affects Israel's decision-making in the area.

Mission participants heard from Yoav Yaron, a young Israeli from Gush Katif. Yoav, who was 14 during the Gaza disengagement, told his emotional story and explained how the disengagement so affected many Israelis. He also discussed the catastrophic consequences of Israel's withdrawal from Gaza and what one should learn from this when discussing Judea and Samaria.

Overall, the ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel greatly impacted the students and gave them the skills, experiences, and personal stories they need to stand up for Israel and fight anti-Israel hatred on campus. ZOA Campus aims to replicate this experience on the organization's first-ever Summer Mission, in June 2016.

ZOA Campus thanks Myron Zimmerman and the MZ Foundation for making these leadership missions a reality. With Mr. Zimmerman's generous support, the ZOA is providing students with a one-of-a-kind educational experience that strengthens their connection to the Jewish state and teaches them to be strong and effective Israel advocates on campus. 

ZOA People

Tyler Korn *Helping Israel is a Family Affair*

Tyler Korn's understated way of expressing himself belies his passion for Israel and Jewish life. The attorney hails from a family whose devotion to Israel and Jewish community involvement go back generations. Korn's grandfather, an importer-exporter, helped to arrange for communications equipment to reach the Haganah prior to the outbreak of war in May 1948. Members of the extended family moved to Israel to fight in the War of Independence, and Korn remains in close touch with relatives living there today. The example set by his family has always inspired him. "I feel very strongly about Israel as the homeland of the Jewish people and the need to support Israel," he says.

Korn earned his bachelor's degree from Brandeis University, which he attended on a Justice Louis D. Brandeis Merit Schol-

arship. He won the university's Best Thesis Award (on the unlikely subject of real estate securitization) and graduated first in his class. He then proceeded to University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he earned his Juris Doctorate and served as articles editor of the *Journal of Labor and Employment Law*.

He was subsequently admitted to the bar in both New York and Florida and has practiced tax law ever since, first at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York City and then at his boutique tax and corporate law firm, Korn & Kalish LLP. The firm has offices in New York City and Naples, Florida, where Korn and his family reside. His law practice focuses on complex tax structuring and reorganizations, and on federal tax disputes and tax litigation. His clients include individuals and companies

throughout the U.S., Asia, and the Caribbean, as well as several prominent real estate and investment funds.

Korn is married to Rebecca Kosloff, a noted oncologist and hematologist. Their two children, ages 8 and 4, already have a strong attachment to Israel and are looking forward to their first trip there.


Korn has served as chairman of Israel Bonds for Southwest Florida since 2003. He joined the ZOA after hearing an inspirational speech given by ZOA President Morton Klein at an Israel Bonds event in Naples. "The ZOA is so strong and effective an advocate that I knew I wanted to be involved. At first, I was just a member. Later, I began to serve as pro bono counsel to the ZOA." In 2013, Korn received the Dr. Irving and Cherna Moskowitz Award at ZOA's annual Brandeis Dinner. In

2014, he was named to the National Board, on which he continues to serve.

"The ZOA is the pre-eminent pro-Israel organization in the U.S. I'm proud of its willingness to stand apart from the politically correct Jewish organizations, which fail sometimes to defend Israel from its defamers," Korn says, adding: "The ZOA is not afraid to tell the hard truth about the infeasibility of establishing a peaceful Palestinian Arab state." He believes that the "land for peace" solution is a false paradigm for Israel because, he says, "it contradicts the Jewish people's indigenous rights to the land, it will not settle the Palestinians' territorial conflict, and it represents the primary existential threat to the State of Israel."

Back in the early 1990s, Korn remon-

strated then-Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres about the concessions Israel was making to the PLO under the Oslo Accords. "I said to him that this process would ultimately result in Palestinians firing rockets at Ben Gurion Airport. By 2014, that warning proved all too prescient. But warning and educating against these policies that endanger Israel is what ZOA is all about."

Says ZOA National President Mort Klein: "Tyler has given an extraordinary amount of his time and talent to ZOA, doing pro-bono legal work for us. He has made a real impact benefiting our organization. Tyler is as sincere and committed a Zionist as I've ever met. I so value his friendship. We are honored and privileged to have him as part of the ZOA family." 



Israel Office



ZOA campus leaders learned about Knesset anti-BDS activity from new Likud MK Anat Berko (back row)

ZOA-Israel Reclaims the Sovereign Narrative



JEFF DAUBE
*Director,
ZOA-Israel*

In the past half-year, ZOA-Israel has forged new pathways, merging correlated issues for amplified effect and uniting Israel allies from multiple continents to advance ZOA's messaging.

COMBATING LETHAL INCITEMENT

We walk the streets of Jerusalem these days ever vigilant of the random knife-wielder or car-rammer. Barefaced Palestinian Arab incitement underpins the violence, as it has for the past 22 years. With the proliferation of horrific incidents all over Israel, including those involving American victims, there is an acute need to educate Israeli and U.S. leaders about the “moderate” Palestinian Authority (PA) leadership responsible for the violence and to promote new responses, such as regulating incendiary social media.

ZOA-Israel was inspired to pursue the latter after hearing Micha Avni's passionate testimony at the Knesset. Avni's father, U.S.–Israeli citizen Richard Lakin, was shot in the head and stabbed multiple times on the #78 bus in Jerusalem in October. The death of this coexistence advocate had been “facilitated and accelerated” by Facebook, said Avni, who asked the MKs to intervene with sanctions. Later, at a Knesset Diaspora Affairs Committee hearing on online anti-Semitism, we proposed that Israeli lawmakers explore remedies with their counterparts in Congress. Committee chair MK Avraham Neguse, among others, loved the idea and asked ZOA-Israel to serve as point of contact.

On our next Capitol Hill round, we encountered widespread sympathy for Avni's protest and for the sentiments of Dr. Yagil Henkin, whose letter we shared about U.S. administra-

tion apathy toward the terror-murder of his brother and sister-in-law, Eitam and Naama, in front of their children. That incident, too, resulted from Palestinian Arab instigation. It was gratifying to read soon after that new social media restraints were being considered by members of Congress, especially Representative Ted Poe (R-TX) and Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY), with whom we discussed the incitement epidemic and Knesset interest in collaboration.

Several other congressional initiatives, slamming the PA and making use of U.S. financial leverage to stop the incitement, coincided with ZOA-Israel's lobbying efforts, including measures from House Foreign Affairs Committee members Alan Lowenthal (D-CA) and Mark Meadows (R-NC), who visited with us in Israel shortly before their resolution passed. Representatives Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Eliot Engel (D-NY), and Ted Deutch (D-FL), equally receptive to our anti-incitement agenda over the course of many D.C. visits, got on board as co-sponsors.

Representative Martha McSally (R-AZ) introduced an \$80 million PA aid cut after we connected her with MK Yoav Kisch—both of them former fighter pilots—to discuss accountability, among other topics. Representative Poe's Financial Aid Transparency and Accountability bill and a letter to PA President Mahmoud Abbas concerning incitement, from House Appropriations Committee members Kay Granger (R-TX) and Nita Lowey (D-NY), dovetailed with conversations we had with each of them, both in Israel and on the Hill.

Having been asked a year ago to serve as the "eyes and ears" for the Justice Department's Victims of Overseas Terrorism director, we met again to underscore the incitement behind the murders of Massachusetts teenager Ezra Schwartz, who was killed in November, and seven other Americans. We also complained about the generally neglectful to sometimes horrendous treatment of victims' families, particularly those involved in *Sokolow v. PLO*. Despite the plaintiffs' win, the U.S. administration had sided with the PLO in its appeal of the court decision, citing dubious economic distress for the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, a cost-free idea that we suggested to address this injustice—reducing U.S. aid to the PA commensurate with the salaries it pays terrorists jailed by Israel, then giving that sum directly to victims—was embraced enthusiastically by the members of Congress with whom we spoke.

Back in Israel, keeping Palestinian Arab incitement, and its American victims, front and center in our advocacy, we arranged for Sarri Singer, founding director of Strength to Strength, who was seriously injured in a 2003 bus bombing, to meet with U.S. consular and embassy officials and the head of the FBI division in Israel. During our discussions, we emphasized the lies promulgated by Abbas, such as Israel's having changed the Temple Mount status quo or having "summarily executed our children in cold blood." We also asked about extradition and rendition possibilities for bringing present and past murderers of Americans to the U.S. for trial.

PRESERVING LIVES AND LAND RIGHTS

Judea/Samaria and Jerusalem remain the focus of ZOA-Israel's Legal Grounds campaign—even as we are continuously reminded of the attacks in pre-1967 Israel and Palestinian Arab and BDS incitement—that Israel's sovereign existence everywhere is the target. Much progress has been achieved:

One of our best advocates, Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely—who early on evinced a desire to work closely with us and did—recently issued a new set of guidelines to Israel's foreign diplomatic corps concerning Israel's legal arguments in favor of settlement. Our action alert, to thank Hotovely for her game-changing new direction, was well-received.

Land of Israel caucus co-chair MK Yoav Kisch declared that he would introduce legislation to apply Israeli law in Judea/Samaria. His public pronouncements in favor of adopting the Levy Report, a key document in support of this move, were echoed by several others we have been encouraging in this direction.

An unprecedented letter from 15 MKs, sent to Prime Minister Netanyahu on the eve of his U.S. visit, is proof positive the political climate is shifting and that Legal Grounds, working with these MKs, is on the right trajectory.



NY State Assemblyman Dov Hikind (left) with victims' rights activist Sarri Singer and ZOA-Israel's Jeff Daube

The global BDS movement all but dropped its earlier pretensions of an agenda exclusively about settlements; with that, more serious responses from the Knesset and government ministries seemed suddenly to emerge.

While visiting the regional council tents set up in front of Prime Minister Netanyahu's residence to protest surging Palestinian Arab violence, we applauded Minister Ofer Akounis' similar call to adopt the Levy Report because, he said: "Building is a right, not a favor," and international attempts to connect this right with political conflict are "invalid."

New Likud Knesset member Miki Zohar, after committing to work with Legal Grounds, followed through with an article upholding our principles and goals. When the European Union (EU) introduced its plan to single out products of Judea, Samaria, and the Golan, Zohar introduced a Label for Label bill calling to boycott the boycotters.

An unprecedented letter from 15 MKs, sent to PM Netanyahu on the eve of his U.S. visit, requesting that he clarify for President Obama Israel's historical and legal rights, is proof positive the political climate is shifting and that Legal Grounds, working with these MKs, is on the right trajectory.

Recent statements by PM Netanyahu about Israel's rights justifying building in post-'67 Israel — a deviation from his usual security argu-

ment — may have been influenced by the changing attitudes around him. In turn, this also may have helped generate a comfort zone for certain loyal coalition MKs to speak out for the first time.

Meanwhile, the terror blitz erupting on the Jerusalem front, after years of government apathy regarding Palestinian Arab depredations and harassment, should have come as no surprise to followers of ZOA-Israel's activities over the years. Jerusalem First Deputy Mayor Yossi Deitsch admitted that "had we heeded the warnings [from ZOA-Israel with partner ICPHH] five years ago about the rock throwing on Har Hazeitim, we may not have faced the current security crisis in Jerusalem."

ZOA-Israel continues to push for laws and amendments to restore security and control. Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked has introduced measures that would hold minors and their parents responsible for damages caused by their stone-throwing, firebombing, and grave desecrations. The legislative changes, combined with an array of new initiatives adopted at our behest, appear to have led to a marked decrease in violence, at least on the Mount of Olives.

Our other track — attempting to get U.S. officials to minimally acknowledge if not condemn the attacks — recently included accompanying Ambassador-at-Large David Saperstein and other visiting diplomats to the Jerusalem sites under greatest threat. Around the same time, the violent incidents data we again compiled finally received a mention — albeit tepid — in the State Department's latest International Religious Freedom Report.

MOBILIZING AGAINST ANTAGONISTS

The global BDS movement has all but dropped its earlier pretensions of an agenda exclusively about settlements. With that, more serious responses from the Knesset and government ministries seemed suddenly to emerge, many of them actualized in cooperation with pro-Israel NGO leaders, including ZOA-Israel Director Jeff Daube. Examples include anti-delegitimization measures led by caucus heads MKs Michael Oren, Anat Berko, Robert Ilatov, and Nachman Shai, as

well as specifics described in a closed briefing with Foreign Ministry Director General Dore Gold and his senior staff.

On the U.S. side, ZOA-Israel collaborations with several members of Congress produced boycott-fighting results, as well. Together with International Legal Forum Director Yifa Segal and legal expert Professor Eugene Kontorovich, we approached the office of Representative Doug Lamborn (R-CO). Lamborn's subsequent letter to the European Union leadership, signed by 36 members of Congress, dispelled the EU's disingenuous claim that labeling Israeli products is meant to help consumers. Almost simultaneously, presidential hopeful Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Representative Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) disseminated another iteration. Representatives Eliot Engel, Nita Lowey, and Peter Roskam (R-IL) followed up in late December.

The American Israeli community, showing increasing interest in these U.S. political processes, pitched in hard for our massive Chuck the Deal campaign, hoping to influence linchpin Senator Chuck Schumer and other undecided leaders on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, aka the Iran deal. Recent visits by U.S. politicians, facilitated by ZOA-Israel, afforded additional opportunities for expat participation (town halls, media conferences), and enabled us to separately advance our own advocacy goals in more private venues.

On another solidarity visit, former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee twice credited ZOA as the oldest and among the most respected of pro-Israel groups, while emphasizing the "clear and present danger" of Iran to both the U.S. and Israel. ZOA-Israel helped him further grasp the deal's yawning gaps — for example, its disregard for the dangers of Iran's intermediate-range missiles, which could deliver chemical, biological, or radiological warheads to Israel's essential road system.

We introduced bigger-picture realities to a delegation led by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer. Among other topics, we discussed other looming perils facing Israel, including the Hezbollah and Syria-Iraq messes in the north and east, Yemen's Houthi threat to close down Red Sea entry to Eilat and the Suez Canal in the south, the ISIS insur-

gencies in areas abutting Israel north and south, and the growing radicalization stirred up by Iranian proxies mixing in with Israel's Palestinian Arab neighbors.

During another bipartisan fact-finding mission — this time conducted amid daily terror attacks and deteriorating security — we presented our salient issues in one-on-ones with Representatives Alan Lowenthal (D-CA), Scott Garrett (R-NJ), Jim Jordan (R-OH), Mark Meadows (R-NC), and Raoul Labrador (R-ID). They came away with a deeper understanding of Israel's challenges, thanks in part to an itinerary including visits to normally omitted Judea/Samaria. In a culminating forum for American Israelis, the lawmakers expressed determination to share the truths they said are not being heard in the U.S. and to protect Israel's absolute right to defend its citizenry.

The ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel, led by Zach Stern and staff, were among the youth leaders who recently visited with us in Israel. This year's program featured first-time meetings at the Foreign Affairs Ministry and with Likud MK Anat Berko at the Knesset. Several students expressed intense interest in joining us, whether for ongoing Knesset pursuits or for a round of lobbying next time in D.C.

With Hispanics now the fastest-growing U.S. demographic and one critical to long-term grassroots support for Israel, ZOA-Israel participated in a major Knesset event launching the campaign to identify bnei anusim, Spanish and Portuguese conversos dating back to the Inquisition. It is not hard to envision the benefits of helping them become a paradigm-changing, new pro-Israel community.

Even as ZOA-Israel emphasizes U.S.-Israel relationships and interests, we occasionally extend our reach to include foreign diplomats, journalists, and academics. We recently engaged with the International Parliamentarians group, led by Representative Eliot Engel and accompanied by Representative Susan Davis (D-CA), Australia's ambassador to Israel, Indian opinion-makers, and embattled Israel supporters from Switzerland, Sweden, and Norway. We also were asked by Israel's Government Press Office to brief foreign journalists on and around the Mount of Olives. 

Several students expressed intense interest in joining us, whether for ongoing Knesset pursuits or for a round of lobbying next time in D.C.

Around the Country



Jump for Israel participant David Prager

At a Miami Dade Republican Council meeting, ZOA's Sharona Whisler quoted recent anti-Israel remarks by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and listed 13 reasons why the Iran deal is a disaster.

Florida

ZOA FLORIDA FIGHTS THE IRAN DEAL WHILE VOLUNTEERS "JUMP FOR ISRAEL"

In the lead-up to the Iran deal vote, ZOA Florida put a great deal of effort into activities opposing the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which Iran has already violated. ZOA Florida held a 400-strong rally in front of the Aventura office of U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz. Then, with only three days to plan and organize, ZOA Florida Executive Director Sharona Whisler, along with lay leaders, organized a rally that drew 800 protesters outside Vice President Joe Biden's meeting with Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz and Jewish community leaders. ZOA was the only organization to plan and organize this rally, which several local day schools allowed students to attend. Whisler addressed the crowd along with Daniel Miller, who survived an Iranian-funded terror attack, and Iraq war veteran and double-amputee Brian Mast. The event received tremendous coverage by national and international press, TV, and radio.

A few days later, Whisler addressed over 100 people at a Miami Dade Republican Council meeting. She quoted recent remarks made in broken English by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei: "Firstly, ...God willing, there will be nothing as Zionist regime by next 25 years. Secondly, until then, struggling, heroic and jihadi morale will leave no moment of serenity for Zionists." Whisler continued: "I am a Zionist. My triplet sister and her husband live with their three young children in Israel ...so this statement affects me very personally, as I know it affects all of you." Whisler went on to list 13 reasons why the Iran deal is a disaster, and she received a standing ovation. She and ZOA National Board member Leonard Getz also visited the office of Congresswoman Lois Frankel (D-Palm Beach), who voted against the deal.

In October, Whisler joined ZOA colleagues, including National President Morton Klein, at the 37th World Zionist Congress in Israel. They represented the only slate at the congress to propose anti-BDS resolutions. Although it was exciting to participate in such a historic event, it was disturbing that for some factions, fighting anti-Semitism was not a priority. Because anti-Semitism is perpetuated by lies, it is important to

set the record straight. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech to the delegates cited 10 lies regarding the recent rise in attacks against Israel.

FLORIDA EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

In November, ZOA Florida sponsored its most successful "Jump for Israel" fundraising event to date: 15 daredevils jumped out of a perfectly good airplane in the name of Zionism. In an article published in the *Florida Jewish Journal*, participant Michael Biberman said: "It was a great jump and great to show support for ZOA. We felt it was important, especially with what is going on in Israel and around the world. My law office reached out to our client base and had the opportunity to sponsor eight jumps."

Later that month, Beth Ami Congregation in Boca Raton hosted ZOA Government Relations Director Joshua London for a wine-tasting event and discussion, "How to Fix the U.S.-Israel Relationship." Mr. London shared his expertise in Israeli wines and led a talk that elicited many questions during the question-and-answer portion of the evening.

At the end of November, Bal Harbour Village became the first municipality to pass an anti-Boycott, Divest and Sanction (BDS) ordinance. It was drafted by Bal Harbour Councilman Gabriel Groisman, whose family supports the ZOA, in the hope that this ordinance will set an example for other municipalities throughout the country. Ironically, Bal Harbour used to be a restricted community where Jews were not allowed to live or purchase property. Said Councilman Groisman: "Recently, we have seen the increase in efforts to boycott and otherwise discriminate on the basis of nationality and ethnicity. Make no mistake about it, the BDS movement is a global propaganda campaign against Israel that serves as thin cover for anti-Semitism, the level of which we have not seen in the Western world in over 60 years."

In what is hoped to become an annual event, Temple Menorah Miami hosted a sold-out ZOA Shabbaton in January featuring ZOA President Morton Klein. His talks included, "The Lies Told About Israel Throughout the World" and "Jerusalem, Whose City Is It?" He also addressed the Palm Beach Synagogue, and the Downtown Jew-



ZOA Florida Executive Director Sharona Whisler speaks at an anti-Iran-deal rally attended by 800 people

ish Center Chabad of Fort Lauderdale at their Shabbat Around the World in Israel dinner.

NEW ZOA FLORIDA BOARD MEMBER

ZOA Florida welcomes Michael Marcus to its board. Michael is a seasoned creative and marketing professional who has consistently delivered turnkey celebrity-leveraged special events, promotional programs, and fundraising campaigns. He has produced televised sports events for CBS, NBC, and ESPN, working with such sponsors as Volvo, Pepsi, Twentieth Century Fox, American Airlines, Sprint, BP, and Anthem Blue Cross. For more than 15 years, he created and executed events for the Kennedy/Shriver family's charity, Best Buddies International. During his tenure, the charity's annual budget increased from some \$6 million to \$22 million. Michael consults

Although it was exciting to participate in the historic World Zionist Congress, it was disturbing that for some factions, fighting anti-Semitism was not a priority.



ZOA delegates visit the grave of Ze'ev Jabotinsky during the 37th World Zionist Congress

***Bal Harbour
Councilman
Gabriel
Groisman:
“Make no
mistake about
it, the BDS
movement is a
global propa-
ganda cam-
paign against
Israel that
serves as thin
cover for anti-
Semitism.”***

for Thank Israeli Soldiers, a Jerusalem-based non-profit that provides gratitude and educational support for IDF soldiers, assisting the organization in U.S. development and brand awareness. He also serves in an advisory capacity for California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and his Team California for Healthy Kids initiative, launched to positively impact the state's 6.2 million public school students. Michael earned his BA in theater arts/television production from UCLA. We are thrilled to have Michael on the ZOA Florida board.

To get involved with ZOA Florida please contact florida@zoa.org.

Michigan

ZOA MICHIGAN TAKES ON ANTI-ISRAEL DEMONSTRATORS, GIVES STUDENT ACTIVISTS THE TOOLS THEY NEED ON CAMPUS

ZOA-Michigan and Susan Tuchman, director of the ZOA Center for Law and Justice, contacted the heads of the University of Michigan to defend a Jewish student, Jesse Arm, who was

facing a student government ethics probe for challenging anti-Israel demonstrators. The demonstration took place on November 19, the day that Ezra Schwartz, a peer of Arm's, was killed in a Palestinian Arab terrorist attack in Israel. ZOA-MI and Tuchman made sure that Arm's rights were protected.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

As part of our ongoing effort to promote education, awareness, and support for Israel and Jewish causes, ZOA-MI hosted a very successful event attended by more than 200 young adults from a variety of backgrounds. We saw a lot of new faces, and everyone had the chance to learn about ZOA and Israel advocacy in a fun atmosphere. Events included Krav Maga classes, IDF-style paintball, debates, barbecues, and “think tank” meetings on how to better support Israel.

ISRAEL EDUCATION WORKSHOP

High-school students from public and Jewish day schools around metro Detroit participated in our Israel advocacy workshop, at which knowledgeable guest speakers informed the students



ZOA REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

SPRING
2016



U.S. Senator Blunt (R-MO); Actor Jon Voight, Adelson Awardee; Morton A. Klein, ZOA President; U.S. Cong. Ed Royce (R-CA), Chair, House Foreign Relations Committee

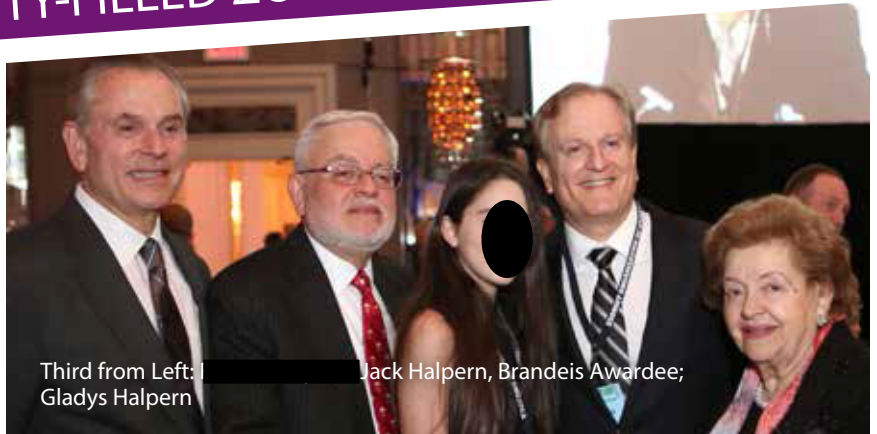


Global Philanthropists, Dr. Miriam and Sheldon Adelson

ADELSONS, VOIGHT, DERMER, HALPERN NETANYAHU, DERSHOWITZ, DANON ALSO SPEAK HONORED AT CELEBRITY-FILLED ZOA DINNER



Shillman Awardee, Hon. Ron Dermer, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. and Dr. Bob Shillman



Third from Left: Jack Halpern, Brandeis Awardee; Gladys Halpern



Above: 1200 attendees at the ZOA Gala; Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel; Hon. Danny Danon, Israel's UN Ambassador. Below: Prof. Alan Dershowitz; Derek Silver, Student Awardee with ZOA Campus staffers; 6 of 200+ student dinner attendees



JOIN THE ZOA IN WASHINGTON
AT THIS CRITICAL TIME

ZOA PRO-ISRAEL
CAPITOL HILL
MISSION

WEDNESDAY,
MAY 11, 2016

dcmision@zoa.org

about Jewish heritage, Israel's history, and Israel advocacy. Participants in ZOA-MI's Israel Education Workshop were eligible to apply for scholarships to be used toward the cost of summer or year-long educational programs in Israel.

ZOA-Michigan is happy to educate these future Jewish leaders and help support their travels to Israel.

OPINION EDITORIALS

Our op-eds on the Iran deal, Israeli-Palestinian Arab conflict, anti-Semitism, and BDS have been published in local and national media including the *Detroit Jewish News* and *Times of Israel*, reaching thousands of people and educating them on current events.

New Jersey

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER SHINES ON NATIONAL STAGE, FIGHTS IRAN DEAL, HOSTS TOP SPEAKERS

ZOA-New Jersey's efforts last fall were focused on defeating the disastrous Iran deal. New Jersey members travelled to Washington to rally and lobby against the deal, spoke out at town hall meetings across the state, and organized phone drives and letter-writing campaigns to persuade our senators and members of Congress to join us in opposing the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). We were encouraged when New Jersey Governor Chris Christie actively campaigned against the deal, and ZOA had a strong presence at a press conference with the governor at Rutgers University, organized by ZOA National Board member and NORPAC Chairman Dr. Ben Chouake.

ACTIONS AGAINST THE IRAN DEAL

We were also proud to witness the eloquence of senior NJ Senator Robert Menendez, as he declared his allegiance to conscience over party and his opposition to the deal in an inspiring speech at Seton Hall University. We listened with hope as Senator Cory Booker outlined the myriad



Israel Education Workshop participants are encouraged to study in Israel

dangers of the JCPOA in multiple phone calls and public meetings and were outraged when he abandoned his principles and supported this compromise with evil. ZOA rejected Senator Booker's invitation to meet with him, Treasury Undersecretary Adam Szubin, and other key Jewish leaders shortly after his announcement of support. Our statements of condemnation received widespread media exposure. ZOA-NJ continues to regularly contact our leaders to insist that they hold Iran accountable and oppose sanctions relief in the face of ongoing threats and violations by Iran.

"HOW TO SAVE THE WEST"

In October, ZOA-NJ proudly co-sponsored nationally acclaimed leader Ken Abramowitz, who delivered his "How to Save the West" speech to a highly engaged audience. Using a directed question-and-answer format, Mr. Abramowitz guided a discussion of the impact of media, international organizations, including the UN, and political Islam on our cultural, political, and economic future. We thank Mr. Abramowitz for his time and insight, and all those who came to join the conversation.

In November, Helene Fragman Abramson

ZOA-NJ continues to regularly contact our leaders to insist that they hold Iran accountable and oppose sanctions relief in the face of ongoing threats and violations by Iran.

Dr. Chesler explained how liberal views have led to a rise in anti-Semitism and an abandonment of women and religious minorities in Muslim countries, where they are subject to honor killings and a trend toward greater gender “apartheid,” including coercion to wear the burqa and the veil.

opened her Princeton home to a parlor meeting to discuss innovative ways to unite and educate our communities and campuses in the face of growing divisiveness and threats. ZOA National Board member Nelson Obus and ZOA-NJ Board member Naomi Vilko were among the attendees who brought their unique experiences to the table and brainstormed about action items.

Also in November, of course, was the ZOA National Gala, where NJ was well represented both in the crowd and on the dais. Jersey native Jack Halpern was the honoree, and Dr. Ben Chouake was a dinner chair. Thank you for your amazing service and for continuing to inspire Jersey pride!

PHYLLIS CHESLER: ON BEING A FEMINIST ZIONIST

In December, we continued our partnership with B’nei Tikvah of North Brunswick and co-sponsored a speech by renowned author and activist Dr. Phyllis Chesler. Dr. Chesler demonstrated that intellectuals and feminists, including many who consider themselves liberals, have discarded Western values in favor of multicultural relativism. She explained how these views, in turn, have led to a rise in anti-Semitism and to an abandonment of women and religious minorities in Muslim countries, where they are subject to honor killings and a trend toward greater gender “apartheid,” including coercion to wear the burqa and the veil. Dr. Chesler spoke about her personal experiences living in Afghanistan, her subsequent

decades as a world leader in feminist thought, and her marginalization in that arena as a result of her Zionism. This fascinating event was all the more timely as it came soon after a decision by the National Women’s Studies Association to support an academic boycott of Israel, while ignoring injustices toward women in the Islamic world. The event received positive press coverage in the *New Jersey Jewish News* (<http://bit.ly/1UYQ4S8>).

DUMISANI WASHINGTON: A BLACK ZIONIST FOR ISRAEL

Also in December, ZOA co-sponsored a talk for Rutgers students by Pastor Dumisani Washington, the leader of the Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel. Pastor Washington’s fascinating personal history as a musician, clergyman, author, speaker, and passionate advocate for Zionism and Israel brings a unique and inspirational perspective to Israel advocacy and inspired the students in attendance. While condemning the false allegations and hateful rhetoric of BDS, Pastor Washington educated students on Israel’s multicultural, tolerant, and racially mixed society and the need to “effectively champion her virtues to those who are willing to hear truth.” Thanks go to ZOA’s Zach Stern for organizing the event and to our co-sponsors at Rutgers Hillel, and CUFI. A huge thank you also to Pastor Washington for his incredible passion and vision.

ZOA-NJ continues to grow and greatly appreciates the community’s strong response to our end-of-year campaign. We continue to offer ex-

cellent programming across the state; build relationships with media, elected officials, and other Jewish groups; and look forward to continuing to build on our strong voice in the New Jersey arena. In addition, we continue to meet with administrators from area high schools to assist them in preparing students for what they will face on college campuses by educating them on both the facts and the tactics needed to defeat Israel's detractors. We would love to make activists of all our supporters, and we welcome all volunteers.

If you would like host a parlor meeting, bring a speaker, or just help out, please contact zoanj@zoa.org.

New York

WHAT'S NEW AT ZOA-NEW YORK METRO? THE ZIONIST CULTURE CLUB OF NEW YORK

The ZOA New York Metro Chapter was well represented at the annual ZOA Louis D. Brandeis Awards Dinner in November, especially among young professionals (under 35), with nearly 100 in attendance. Our strong presence is indicative of a concerted effort to develop programming for young Zionists in the New York area.

In January, we launched a brand new initiative for young professionals — a book and film club that we are aptly calling the Zionist Culture Club of New York. The club is scheduled to meet eight times in 2016. Topics will include: The Holocaust and How Jews Fought Back, Zionist Leadership and the Making of the State of Israel, Zionist Response to International Islamist Terrorism, and more. We hope that this initiative will propel the continued growth of our young professionals division and provide young Zionists a space to explore Zionist ideas and engage with other like-minded New Yorkers. Many thanks to Zionist Culture Club co-chairs MJ Kronfeld and Andrew Davidsburg for taking the lead in organizing this program.

In October, Susan Tuchman, director of ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, addressed a general membership meeting of the New York Metro Chapter at the Edmond J. Safra Synagogue. Susan's



IDF Paratrooper Shahar Peled at the ZOA screening of "Beneath the Helmet" in December

talk, "Israel Bashing and Anti-Semitism on Campus: What You Should Know, How We Can Fight It," gave our members an overview of what Jewish students are facing on campuses around the country. Susan informed us that although anti-Semitism is a growing concern, there are specific ways we can fight back. She specifically explained that due to the efforts of the ZOA, Jewish students are now protected under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, and that students who are discriminated against because they are Jewish now have legal recourse under this law.

In December, we were thrilled to partner with the Atid Chapter of Hadassah for a Chanukah dinner and theater screening of the film "Beneath the Helmet: From High School to the Home Front." This sold-out event at the Sutton Place Synagogue

Young professionals' strong presence at the ZOA dinner is indicative of an effort to develop programming for young Zionists in the New York area.



NY Metro Chapter's fall membership meeting

We ramped up our Buy Israel program in an effort to help Israel's economy as the wave of murders, attempted murders, and terrorism intensified throughout Israel.

included an amazing Chanukah-themed dinner, music, dessert, and the film. We heard post-screening comments from Israel Defense Forces paratrooper Shahar Peled, who spoke about his experience serving in the IDF and combating anti-Israel sentiment on campuses around the U.S. Many thanks to New York Metro board member Rhonda Kaplan for taking a lead role in organizing this incredibly successful event.

The New York Metro Chapter is planning a number of initiatives for the spring. For the latest on New York area events, news, and announcements, check out our brand new website, nyc.zoa.org. You can also contact us by phone at (917) 408-3433 or by email at nyc@zoa.org.

Philadelphia

ZOA PHILADELPHIA HOSTS FIFTH ANNUAL GALA AND MAKES A MOVIE ABOUT VETERAN ZIONISTS

The Greater Philadelphia District hosted its fifth Annual Gala in October. Nearly 300 guests were inspired by memorable speeches and feasted on a delicious kosher spread.

A VERITABLE WHO'S WHO AT THE GALA

Honorees included Rabbi Ira Budow of Abrams Hebrew Academy and his wife, Dr. Susan Fuchs, who received our Guardians of Israel Award; young professional Shani Weiss, who received our The Future is Now Award; Philadelphia ZOA Board Member and ZOA Director of Development Howard Katzoff and his wife, Patti Klein Katzoff, who received our Pillars of the Community Award; and author Jack Engelhard, who received our Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism. National ZOA Associate Treasurer and Philadelphia ZOA Board Member Bart Blatstein presided as master of ceremonies. Video of the speeches and award presentations is available on YouTube. Among the award presenters was Philadelphia ZOA Board Chairman and National ZOA Board member Gene Shusman; National Board Chairman and Philadelphia ZOA Chairman Emeritus Dr. Michael Goldblatt also spoke.

Philadelphia ZOA elected and installed a new slate of officers at its January 19 meeting. Lee Bender and Kevin Ross will continue to serve as co-presidents, and Len Getz continues as treasurer. Our incoming vice presidents and recording secretary include a roster of top area Zionists. Guest speakers were Israel Consul General Yaron Sideman and ZOA President Morton Klein.

SPECIAL PROJECTS: "PAST & PRESENT," SPEAKER EVENTS, AND BUY ISRAEL

Special projects in the months ahead include a documentary film, "Past & Present," highlighting the activities and accomplishments of veteran Zionist activists. In addition to recording their memorable contributions, we hope the movie will inspire a new generation of Zionists to devote significant time, energy and resources to our movement. A promotional video, to be used for a crowdfunding campaign, has already been filmed. It features ZOA Honorary National President Lewis B. Dashe and Philadelphia Executive Director Steve Feldman. We also plan to launch a special new series featuring prominent speakers.

Philadelphia ZOA leaders have been frequent guest speakers at area synagogues, organizations,



ZOA Director of Development, Howard Katzoff and Patti Klein receive Philadelphia ZOA Pillars of the Community Award from Gene Shusman (center)



The Greater Philadelphia District: Shani Weiss receives inaugural The Future Is Now Award from Rabbi Shimon Kay as ZOA Board Member Bart Blatstein applauds

and special events. Co-President Lee Bender and Vice President Jerry Verlin spoke at the Mercaz Israel Advocacy Training Seminar. Lee Bender and Executive Director Steve Feldman spoke at a young-professionals event sponsored by Young Jewish Leadership Concepts. Feldman has also been a guest on 1210 WPHT radio. Bender and Feldman have had a number of articles and letters published, including in *Algemeiner* and *American Thinker*. Vice President Roberta Dzubow has had numerous letters published in *The Jewish Exponent*.

We ramped up our Buy Israel program in an effort to help Israel's economy as the wave of murders, attempted murders, and terrorism intensified throughout Israel. When pre-Chanukah attacks dampened holiday sales, we publicized the websites of retailers with brick-and-mortar stores in Jerusalem and elsewhere and urged gift-buyers to patronize their sites.

Pittsburgh

OUTSTANDING PITTSBURGH ZIONISTS WIN ZOA AWARDS

ZOA-Pittsburgh held its annual Gala Awards Dinner on November 4, continuing a decades-long tradition. The event—a reception and served dinner—was one of the most successful in recent

years: 99 percent of those with reservations attended. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of awards.

DRS. TOVA AND JOEL WEINBERG

Pittsburgh's Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Drs. Tova and Joel Weinberg. This award recognizes exceptional leadership and is given to individuals who, guided by principle and purpose, have demonstrated outstanding commitment and dedication in service to Israel, the Jewish people, and the community.

The Weinbergs have been active members of the community since Joel brought his bride home to Pittsburgh some 36 years ago. They met in New York City, after Tova's mother told her to find an Orthodox Jewish guy to marry. "My mother kicked me out of Detroit to find an Orthodox Jewish man in New York City back in the early 1970s," says Tova, who was then in dental school. Joel, who had graduated from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine, was at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine doing his residency in Internal Medicine.

While in New York, Tova met a woman who was putting together singles parties, and Tova got involved inviting guests. At one party, she met a young woman and one minute later told her, "You would be great for a friend of mine." Six weeks later, the couple were married, and

ZOA-Pittsburgh's annual Gala Awards Dinner was one of the most successful in recent years.



Julie Paris, Israel Service Award recipient



CAMERA's Steven Stotsky, keynote speaker



Andy "Hirsch" Dlinn awarded Community Leadership Award

Steven Stotsky described the detailed analysis he and ZOA's Stuart Pavilack completed of anti-Israel editorials in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, after which the paper toned down its anti-Israel rhetoric.

Tova began her career in matchmaking.

Joel is a pulmonary/critical care specialist and for the last ten years has been Vice President of Medical Affairs at UPMC Shadyside. He is also co-director of adult cystic fibrosis care for the UPMC Health System. Joel currently serves on the boards of Hillel Academy, Shadyside Hospital Foundation, and the Visitors' Board of the UPMC Health System. Previously he served on the boards of the UPMC Health System, the Jewish Health Care Foundation, and Congregation Poale Zedeck.

Tova retired from her dental practice to devote her time to helping Jews meet other Jews through her matchmaking efforts. After more than 250 matches resulting in marriage, she has lost count of the number of weddings resulting from her introductions. Tova chaired the ad journal for Hillel Academy for 11 years and was involved with the Jewish Film Festival. She has served on the boards of the ZOA, the Jewish Federation, Kollel, Poale Zedeck, and the *Jewish Chronicle*.

Tova and Joel have five children, three of whom live in Israel. Tova travels frequently to Israel to visit her children and grandchildren.

ANDY "HIRSH" DLINN

The Ivan and Natalie Novick Community Leadership Award was presented to Andy "Hirsh" Dlinn. The award was established in memory of the Novicks for their lifetime of service to ZOA and many organizations in the Pittsburgh Jewish community; Ivan was also a ZOA national president. This distinction is given to a person who best represents the spirit of community leadership in Jewish and humanitarian causes.

Through his wide array of interests, Hirsh Dlinn has touched the lives of many in Pittsburgh. A longtime ZOA-Pittsburgh board member, he has been an active member of the community for more than two decades. Hirsh serves as the hospitality coordinator for the Lubavitch Center, ensuring that observant visitors to Pittsburgh have suitable accommodations for their stay, and serves on the boards of Congregation Poale Zedeck and the Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition. He is also an active member of the Jewish War Veterans and the American Legion.

A two-time graduate of the University of South Carolina, Hirsh earned his B.A. in physics and a master's degree in mass communications. He served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy from 1974 to 1978. From 1979 until his retirement in 1995, he was a public affairs officer with the U.S. Naval Reserves. Hirsh is a past president



Drs. Tova and Joel Weinberg received the Lifetime Achievement Award

of the Pittsburgh Rotary Club and the Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition and founder of the Squirrel Hill Citizens' Patrol, now in its twentieth year of continuous operation. He is an alumnus of Leadership Pittsburgh, the FBI Citizens Academy, and the Citizens' Police Academy. Hirsh is the producer/director of *The Jewish Experience*, a radio program currently on hiatus, and president of Senior Wealth Management.

Hirsch and his wife Gila have six children: Chaya Sarah, Devorah, Yaacov, Shmuel, Pearl, and Lieba. Devorah recently married Maor Batashvili, and they reside in Lod, Israel.

JULIE PARIS

Julie Paris, the 2015 recipient of the Israel Service Award, has demonstrated her love of Israel and the Jewish people time and again through her involvement in many Jewish organizations. Julie is a strong believer in grassroots advocacy. She engages family, friends, and community members in support of Israel, and promotes local pro-Israel events.

Julie has worked at the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and was Western Pennsylvania director at the Jewish National Fund. During that time, she created programs to engage Pittsburghers in developing business and personal re-

lationships with individuals and communities in Israel. She also planned more than a dozen missions to Israel. As a volunteer, Julie's efforts have touched Pittsburgh's Jewish Family & Children's Service, Hadassah, Friendship Circle, Carnegie Mellon University Children's School, Community Day School, AIPAC, JNF, the Israel Project, Friends of the IDF, Chabad of Squirrel Hill, and ZOA.

Nurturing the next generation's love for Israel, Julie pushes to bring more Israel awareness into day schools and religious schools so that the next generation is instilled with ahavat Yisrael. She also engages many local organizations by promoting and attending events. Julie draws her children into the fold by bringing them to local events and engaging them in tzedakah at home.

Julie earned her B.A. in Jewish studies from Tulane University. After studying for one year in Jerusalem at Hebrew University, Julie spent the next year participating in an Israeli service fellowship called Project Otzma. She then completed her M.A. in Middle East history at Tel Aviv University. Julie and her husband Rob have two sons, Ari and Judah.

STEVEN STOTSKY

The gala's keynote speaker was senior analyst for the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA.) Stotsky spoke of his work with Pittsburgh Executive Director Stuart Pavilack, following and reviewing anti-Israel editorials of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. After a detailed analysis, they wrote the owners of the newspaper detailing errors, omissions, and lies. Although the owners of the paper refused to meet with Stotsky and Pavilack, the two were able to share their findings with the Jewish community. The *Post-Gazette* has since toned down its anti-Israel rhetoric, and ZOA-Pittsburgh, through Stuart Pavilack, continues daily to track the paper's Israel reporting.

TOLERANCE PROGRAM GOES TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

ZOA-Pittsburgh is currently planning its Tolerance Education Program, which takes over

ZOA-Pittsburgh is currently planning its Tolerance Education Program, which takes over 500 Pittsburgh public school sophomores to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Those who are confident in their ability to physically defend themselves also gain confidence defending their beliefs verbally. Zionist youth are under constant attack on university campuses. The ZOA is preparing them to advocate for themselves and their beliefs, proudly and effectively.

500 Pittsburgh public school sophomores to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. This year's trip will take place in late February and early March.

ZOA-Pittsburgh also is accepting applications from Jewish high school sophomores and juniors to its Israel scholarship program. Students traveling to Israel this summer on structured study trips are eligible to apply.

Western Region

ZOA'S WESTERN REGION FIGHTS BDS, HONORS INDIA, AND PROMOTES ZIONIST SELF-DEFENSE

Throughout the fall of 2015, ZOA's Western Region Chapter worked to educate and empower local communities about Israel and the dangers of the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions

(BDS) movement, so that they could effectively defend against it.

The anti-Semitic BDS movement is slandering Israel throughout the U.S., particularly in the Western region, but the ZOA is well-equipped to combat the movement's hate-filled lies. For example, a human rights committee of the Berkeley City Council considered a resolution that called for divestment from companies that do business with Israel. While anti-Israel divestment initiatives have been proposed on many college campuses across the U.S., it is rare to see a BDS resolution brought before a city council, let alone to have the council consider adopting it. Western Region Executive Director David Kadosh presented the case against BDS before the human rights committee and helped mobilize other community activists to attend and present their own statements of opposition to the proposed resolution.

The message from ZOA was clear: The BDS movement is discriminatory and anti-Semitic because it targets only the Jewish State for boycott, it hurts the peace process by shutting down dialogue, and it harms the Palestinian Arabs employed by Israeli companies.

After hours of hearing from both sides of the divide, the Berkeley City Council's human rights committee voted to reject the anti-Semitic resolution. The BDS movement used Berkeley as a testing ground to bring BDS beyond the traditional college campus setting and onto Main Street USA. The failure of BDS in Berkeley is encouraging, given the traditional hostility toward Israel on the University of California campus and in the city.

We can expect that similar resolutions will be brought before local governments in other cities. If and when BDS comes to a city near you, the ZOA will be there to help.

Unfortunately, Israel's detractors were active in promoting the BDS agenda in other parts of the region. Hillel of Silicon Valley contacted ZOA West to help pro-Israel students prepare to counter a BDS resolution brought before the student government at San Jose State University (SJSU). Despite a strong effort, the resolution passed. The campus hate group Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) successfully infiltrated the student government and put their activists in a position to guarantee the necessary votes in favor of the BDS

resolution. Ultimately, the Tower Foundation, which manages university spending and appropriations, rejected the BDS resolution. This was a positive outcome. But ZOA West condemned the foundation for even considering the resolution; the proper response would have been for the foundation to reject the discriminatory and divisive measure outright. ZOA West also submitted a letter of concern to SJSU President Susan Martin in response to the increased hostility that Jewish students and Israel supporters were enduring, and to the president's tacit acceptance of the student government's pro-BDS decision.


The ZOA is prepared to face BDS head-on and is developing innovative strategies for countering it on our college campuses and in our communities. Recently, representatives of ZOA's Western Region Chapter, Campus Department, and Center for Law and Justice attended an anti-BDS conference in Las Vegas in order to share best practices and collaborate with like-minded organizations and campus groups.

In order to educate the community and strengthen their advocacy skills, ZOA West hosted presentations by best-selling Israeli author Tuvia Tenenbom at UC Berkeley and in Menlo Park. Tenenbom is best known for his book "Catch the Jew," which exposes European NGOs and human rights organizations that come to Israel to incite Palestinian Arabs against Israel and against Jews. While researching his book, Tenenbom traveled throughout Israel and to areas under Palestinian administrative control posing as "Toby, the German." He used this alter ego to gain the trust of European human rights activists and Palestinian Arabs and found that many so-called human-rights workers coming to the region in fact carry an agenda of anti-Semitism and hatred.

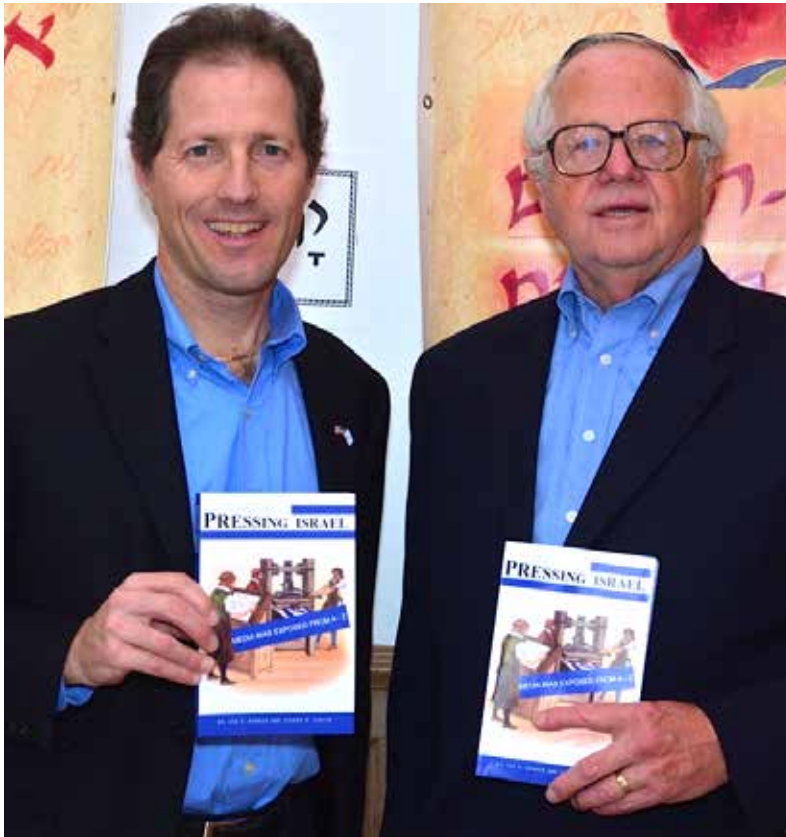
ZOA West received unique publicity when Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the San Francisco Bay Area. India's leader addressed a crowd of 17,000, including local leaders and state officials, at the SAP Center in San Jose. A local news outlet noted that ZOA was the only non-Indian, non-Hindu organization listed as an official co-sponsor of this event. ZOA West sent a delegation to attend the address, which was preceded by Indian dance and music performances. The ZOA supported this historic event in large part due to

*...when BDS
comes to a city
near you, the
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to help.*

the strong relationship between India and Israel. Both countries are targets of radical Islamic terrorism and are on the frontlines in confronting it.

A core tenet of Zionism is the belief that Jews should assume their own self-defense and not rely on others for their protection. ZOA West has incorporated this value as a major goal, to empower Jewish communities to learn the techniques and develop the confidence to better defend themselves. In the spirit of Zionist leaders Ze'ev Jabotinsky and Imi Lichtenfeld, ZOA West expanded its self-defense programs for Jewish youth. David Kadosh led courses in Krav Maga at San Francisco State University, Foothills College, and UC Santa Cruz. He also developed a training course, in conjunction with a local Zionist youth group for teenagers and their parents, to teach marksmanship and the safe handling of firearms. Those who are confident in their ability to physically defend themselves also gain confidence defending their beliefs verbally. Zionist youth are under constant attack on university campuses. The ZOA is preparing them to advocate for themselves and their beliefs, proudly and effectively. 

Words That Hurt *ZOA Activists Must Take the Lead* *to Change Toxic Terms*



Authors Lee Bender (left) and Jerome Verlin

The mainstream media's coverage of Israel is laced with toxic terms that are intentionally crafted to delegitimize the Jewish State. It's clear that Israel's enemies, the media, and its left-wing Jewish detractors appreciate the power of word choice in shaping public perception. Even Israel's supporters unthinkingly use such poisoned pejoratives as "West Bank," "East Jerusalem," "1967 borders," "Jewish settlements," and so on.

ZOA members must take the lead in challenging the use of this loaded lexicon of toxic terms — first, by our advocates and pro-Israel pundits, and then by the media and public at large. Here is what's at stake: Scholars say, "History is what historians say it is." But in reality, history is what ordinary people believe it is. If we forfeit the public-perception-forming word choices of the Arab-Israeli conflict, we forfeit our people's history.

So, here is a baker's dozen of poisoned pejoratives. We must stop using these terms. Badger pro-Israel writers and advocates to stop using them. And then, together, let's lean on the mainstream media to clean up its language.

1. The West Bank: The media claims that the term "Judea and Samaria" is simply "the biblical name for the West Bank." But that claim flouts this historical fact: The Hebrew-origin names Judea and Samaria were used through 1950, when invading Jordan renamed them "the West Bank" in order to disassociate these areas from the Jewish homeland; this term is not shorthand for Judea and Samaria. Under this formulation, Jordan is the East Bank of the original British Mandate for Palestine, which designated the 20th century homeland for the Jewish people.

2. East Jerusalem or traditionally Arab East Jerusalem: From the city's second millennium BCE origins until 1947 CE, there was no such place as East Jerusalem. The 19-year period from 1948 — when invading Jordan captured part of the city — to 1967 was the only time in history when Arabs ruled any part of Jerusalem (except CE 638 to 1099); Palestinian Arabs have not ruled an inch of it for one day in history. Over the past three

millennia, Jerusalem has been the capital of three native states – Judah, Judaea, and modern Israel – and has had a renewed Jewish majority since 19th century Ottoman rule. Eastern Jerusalem is just an area of the city that Israel reunified in 1967. Use the term “eastern Jerusalem” to designate that it is a neighborhood of an undivided city.

3. The UN sought to create Jewish and Palestinian states: The UN Partition Plan of 1947 is a benchmark that clearly reveals the extent of language deterioration. In the plan, the UN did not refer to “the West Bank,” but to “the hill country of Samaria and Judea,” the Hebrew-origin names by which the land of Israel’s hill country had been known from ancient times to the mid-20th century. The UN did not attempt to divide Palestine between Jews and Palestinians, as the media sometimes puts it — akin to dividing Pennsylvania between Jews and Pennsylvanians — but, in terms used over and over, into “the Jewish State” and “the Arab State.” And that 1947 UN resolution did not call Palestinian Arabs “the Palestinians,” but rather referred to Palestine’s Jews and its Arabs as “the two Palestinian peoples.”

4. 1948 was the creation and founding of Israel and ... the war that followed Israel’s creation: Israel was not created and founded in 1948, artificially and out of the blue. That year, Israel attained independence as the natural fruition into renewed statehood of a people who had twice before been independent in that land, after centuries of hard work to re-establish a Jewish State in this historic homeland. Israel did not choose its 1948 War of Independence; war was forced upon it by the Arab states, which rejected UN partition and tried to push the Jews of Israel into the sea. The Jewish homeland army — the Haganah, which became the IDF — repelled that multi-nation foreign invasion.

5. Palestinian militants: No, they are not. They are mass murderers and terrorists who prey on civilians, using rockets, missiles, mortars, bombs, guns, knives, car rammings, etc. A militant fights in combat; a terrorist kills innocent people because of ideology.

6. Palestinian refugees of the war that followed Israel’s creation: The leaders of the invading Arab states, bent on Israel’s destruction, encouraged the Arabs (some 472,000 to 650,000 of them) to flee

tiny Israel temporarily. The media constantly ignores the indigenous Middle Eastern Jews (around 850,000) who were expelled from Arab lands and Iran with barely the clothes on their backs and were forced to abandon property and businesses, for which they were never compensated. Many of them had family roots dating back hundreds, even thousands of years.

Israel absorbed the bulk of these Jews, while Arab “hosts,” including in Arab-administered areas of Palestine itself, isolated the Arab refugees’ descendants in Western-supported refugee camps. This does not convert the Arab-Israeli conflict’s two-sided refugee issue into a Palestinian Arab refugee issue. Had the Arabs accepted the UN partition plan that included a western Palestine Arab state, instead of waging war to destroy the Jewish one, there would be no Palestinian Arab refugees. If there is ever going to be a settlement of this issue, the plight of the Jewish refugees from Arab lands must be taken into account.

7. Israel seized Arab lands in 1967: It did not. The 1967 war, like its predecessors, was a defensive war forced upon Israel. Israel’s neighbors did not want to compromise; they simply wanted to destroy the Jewish State. The newly obtained Israeli territory was meant to provide a security barrier and ensure this could never happen. Moreover, these parts of the Palestine Mandate were not “Arab lands” to which Jews had no historical or legal claim.

8. Israel’s 1967 borders: The 1949 Israel-Jordan Armistice Agreement expressly declared the “green line” it drew between the two sides’ ceasefire positions as a military ceasefire line only, without prejudice to either side’s political border claims. The post-’67 war UN Resolution 242 pointedly did not demand Israel retreat back to the 1949 ceasefire lines.

9. Israeli-occupied West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza: That the media insistently calls Israeli presence in the heart of Jerusalem and in Judea and Samaria “Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories” does not make it so. “Occupation” is an international law term referencing foreign presence in the sovereign territory of another state. The land of Israel’s last sovereign native state before modern Israel was Jewish Judaea. The land ratio of Arab lands to Israel is 625 to 1 and 22 states

Scholars say, “History is what historians say it is.” But, in reality, history is what ordinary people believe it is. If we forfeit the public-perception-forming word choices of the Arab-Israeli conflict, we forfeit our people’s history.

The UN didn't attempt to divide Palestine between Jews and Palestinians, as the media sometimes puts it. Rather, again and again the UN referred to "the Jewish State" and "the Arab State."

to 1. The vast majority of Arabs in Judea-Samaria are ruled by their own government, the Palestinian Authority. Gaza is also bordered by Egypt, and not one Jew or Israeli lives in that territory, which is ruled by Hamas.

10. Jewish settlers and settlements vs. Palestinian residents of neighborhoods and villages: A favorite media contrast is referencing in the same sentence "Jewish settlers" in "settlements" versus "Palestinian residents" of nearby "neighborhoods" and "villages." Jews are not alien "settlers" in a Jerusalem that has had a Jewish majority since 19th century times or in the Judea-Samaria Jewish historical heartland. Jews live in towns, villages, and cities — more accurate terms for "Jewish settlements." PA President Abbas has repeatedly stated that no Jews will be permitted to live in a future Palestinian state on these lands: that is racist and apartheid. Yet Arabs live in Israel and participate in its democratic culture—including Israel's Knesset, Supreme Court, and other institutions—and enjoy the same rights as all Israeli citizens, including health care and education.


11. Israel's insistence on being recognized as a Jewish State is a new stumbling block: New since Moses' time. The Jewish homeland of Israel, including continuous Jewish presence, has always been central to Jewish peoplehood. In 1947, British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin told Parliament that the Jews' "essential point of principle" was a sovereign Jewish Palestine state (and that Arabs' "essential point of principle" was to prevent it).

12. Palestinians accept and Israel rejects a two-state solution: Wrong on both counts. Both the U.S. and Israel define "two states" as two states for two peoples — Jews and Arabs. The Arabs insistently reject two states for two peoples. Many Israelis, including Prime Minister Netanyahu, support that plan—conditioned on an end to Palestinian terror. The Arabs continuously and consistently deny Israel's right to exist as the nation-state of the Jewish people, no matter where its borders are drawn. The Arabs have rejected a state of their own, living side-by-side with Israel, six times since 1937.

13. The Palestinians: The United Nations' 1947 partition resolution called Palestine's Arabs and Jews "the two Palestinian peoples." Nothing is more self-delegitimizing and counter-productive

to achieving peace based on Arab recognition of Jews' right to be there, than that Jews should go around calling Palestinian Arabs "the Palestinians." Instead, always refer to Palestinians as "Palestinian Arabs." In 1947, the UN called Palestine's Jews and its Arabs "the two Palestinian peoples," and even the Associated Press has acknowledged that during the Mandate, Muslims, Christians, and Jews living there were all called Palestinians. Palestinian Arabs have no language, religion, or culture distinguishing them from neighboring Arabs and have never been sovereign in Palestine, whereas the Jews, with a presence stretching back three millennia, have had three states there, all Jerusalem-based. Arabs could have established a state in that territory during the 1948-'67 period that Jordan occupied Judea and Samaria. But that was not their intention, which was, rather, to destroy Israel.

Avoiding these toxic terms and cleaning up the language that is used when it comes to Israel are part of our duty, collectively and individually, to be ambassadors for the truth and to help win our future by helping win back our past. It should go without saying that the safety and security of the Jewish community is bound inextricably to a strong Israel. Emphasize Israel's positives as it strives to engage in *tikkun olam* (repairing the world). Israel is "the Start-Up Nation," a small nation that has made a huge difference, sharing with the world its accomplishments and inventions in high tech, biomedicine, and agriculture. It engages in humanitarian missions worldwide as a first responder; a beacon of Judeo-Christian values; a democracy that respects civil rights, women's rights, minority rights, and gay rights; an asset and ally of the U.S.; and an oasis in a hostile, totalitarian, and theologically dominated Arab/Islamic desert. These qualities, in short, reflect our Jewish values.

Lee S. Bender, co-president of ZOA's Greater Philadelphia District, and Jerome R. Verlin, a recent vice-president, are co-authors of "Pressing Israel: Media Bias Exposed from A-to-Z," Pavilion Press (Philadelphia) 2012. They have written numerous articles and are launching a website and app devoted to countering anti-Israel media bias, www.factsonisrael.com. 

Around the Country with Morton Klein

Morton Klein Meets Egypt's Sisi, Turkey's Erdogan Huckabee Praises ZOA on Hannity

ZOA President Morton Klein traveled to Egypt and Turkey to meet Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan with a delegation of Jewish organizational leaders. In short, Sisi was extraordinarily supportive of Israel and critical of Islamic terrorism while Erdogan was critical of Israel even though he condemned anti-Semitism. Mort asked Sisi of his thoughts about Iran and Saudi Arabia funding Islamic terrorism. Sisi explained at length his great concern about this, adding that he's making it clear to Arab leaders that Israel is strong and is here to stay, and the Arab/Islamic war against Israel must stop. Mort asked Erdogan if he would use his close relationship with Hamas to pressure them to delete Article 7 of Hamas' charter calling for the murder of every Jew. Erdogan dismissed this and said once Israel gives the Palestinians a state, the charter will be changed.

Mort was also asked by philanthropist/businessman Sheldon Adelson and his wife, Dr. Miriam Adelson to make a testimonial video to be shown at the New York Friends of the Israel Defense Forces Dinner honoring them.

Mort has spoken at many synagogues and churches around the country, from the Palm Beach Synagogue to churches in Michigan and New Jersey to the Adelson and Milken schools in Las Vegas and Los Angeles to the Shulamit Day School in Brooklyn, New York.

ZOA has been quoted and published in newspapers around the world from *The New York Times* to the *Los Angeles Times* and *The Jerusalem Post*

Mort will also be a scholar-in-residence along with AIPAC Executive Director Howard Kohr



ZOA President Morton A. Klein standing in front of the Great Sphinx of Giza and the Pyramid of Khafre.

during Passover at a synagogue in Boca Raton, FL. We are also proud to state that because of ZOA's great work, former presidential candidate Governor Mike Huckabee said on the Hannity TV show, "The ZOA, the largest, oldest Jewish support organization in America...Mort Klein – there's nobody stronger than Mort Klein when it comes to issues like [Israel and Iran]." [ZOA](#)

Policy Briefs

The U.S.'s leading role in vastly enriching the world's leading financier of terror was the culmination of the Obama administration's long line of actions empowering the radical terrorist Iranian regime.

In Letter to John Kerry, Cong. Peter Roskam Condemns Amb. Dan Shapiro's Anti-Israel Speech

Congressman Peter Roskam (R-IL) wrote a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry, expressing his “alarm and disappointment in Ambassador Dan Shapiro’s recent comments about the Israeli–Palestinian conflict at the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) Security Conference in Tel Aviv. Ambassador Shapiro troublingly questioned Israel’s ‘long-term intentions’ and openly cast doubt upon the seriousness of its desire to reach peace with the Palestinians. These remarks do not reflect reality, yet they serve to empower those who wish to delegitimize and marginalize the Jewish State. In fact, the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement consistently seizes on this exact type of rhetoric to advance its insidious campaign to destroy Israel.”

ZOA President Slams Obama's Ending of Iran Sanctions

ZOA National President Morton A. Klein has issued the following statement:

The Obama administration’s unlawful lifting of critical banking, shipping, oil, steel, and other sanctions on Iran—despite the radical terrorist Islamic regime of Iran’s string of violations and continuing genocidal ambitions since the Iran deal’s inception—is the biggest nightmarish policy mistake since British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain’s Munich deal with Adolph Hitler. This travesty severely endangers the U.S., Israel, and the world. The administration’s ending of sanctions was compounded by the administration’s announcement...that the U.S. will also pay Iran an additional \$1.7 billion settlement (including \$1.3 billion interest)—thereby further enriching the terrorist Islamic Republic and enhancing its ability to foment Islamic terror.

The U.S.’s leading role in vastly enriching the world’s leading financier of terror was the culmination of the Obama administration’s long line of actions empowering the radical terrorist Iranian regime. [This includes] leaking and thwarting multiple Israeli plans to remove the Iranian nuclear threat, delaying and opposing Congressional

efforts to impose sanctions on Iran, and engaging in secret negotiations to allow Iran to enrich uranium while falsely telling the American public that the U.S. would not enter into a deal that permitted Iran to enrich uranium.

ZOA Appalled: Radical Muslim Leaders Invited to State of the Union Address

The ZOA is appalled that Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Democratic congressional representatives invited Islamist guests with terrorist organization affiliations to the State of the Union (SOTU) address. It was likewise appalling that during his address, President Obama made one-sided, unfounded “Islamophobia” comments, downplayed terrorism dangers, and touted the Iran deal — while failing to mention the American victims of Islamist terrorism in San Bernardino, Chattanooga, Paris, Israel, and elsewhere; Iran’s nuclear deal violations; and Iran’s seizure and detention of two U.S. Navy boats and 10 American sailors.

Democratic National Committee Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) and Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MI) urged their colleagues to invite Muslims to the SOTU address to counteract “un-American, anti-Muslim rhetoric.” Approximately 20 Democratic members of Congress heeded this call. The concept of singling out Muslims to invite is disturbing. But to invite radical Muslim leaders, from the Saudi-funded CAIR and other such groups, gives legitimacy and credibility to these extremists. It would have been far more appropriate to urge members of Congress to invite American victims of Islamist terror attacks, their families, and law-enforcement officials who thwarted or stopped terrorist attacks.

ZOA Condemns Obama Interference in Domestic Israeli Legislation

The ZOA has condemned President Barack Obama for interfering in the internal domestic legislative process in Israel regarding the proposed Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) law, whereby Israeli NGOs that receive more than half of their funds from foreign governments would

be obligated to disclose their funding sources and identify themselves as “foreign agents” when lobbying members of the Knesset (MKs). The Obama administration falsely and publicly implied that free speech and civil society were under threat from the proposed law. This false allegation is especially ironic and laughable given that the Internal Revenue Service has repeatedly refused to give non-profit status to various conservative groups, which reduced and almost silenced groups opposed to Obama’s policies and ideology.

New Poll: 67 Percent of Palestinians Support Stabbing and Murdering Jews

A new Palestinian Arab poll has shown that a “growing majority” of Palestinian Arabs, some 67 percent, support the recent scourge of knifing attacks, car rammings, and murders of Israeli Jews, while 31 percent oppose the violence.

The poll—conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR) in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Ramallah from December 10 to December 12, 2015—also found that 60 percent of Palestinian Arabs support a return to an armed intifada (terror war to maim and murder Jews); 66 percent of Palestinian Arabs believe that the development of the current terror campaign into an armed intifada will serve Palestinian Arab national interests; nearly half of Palestinian Arabs—47 percent—believe that Palestinian Arabs killed by Israeli military or police action during the recent wave of terrorist knifings were guiltless; 70 percent of Palestinian Arabs support banning entry of Israeli products into Palestinian Authority areas, even if Israel responded by banning the entry of Palestinian Arab products into Israel; 26 percent oppose such a ban; 64 percent of Palestinian Arabs support stopping security coordination with Israel, even if Israel responded by preventing Palestinian Arab police access to areas B and C; 33 percent oppose stopping security coordination. (Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research Press Release, Dec. 14, 2015, at <http://bit.ly/1OwIMBx>.)



ISRAELI POLICE SPOKESPERSON

Scene of terror attack in the Sha’ar Binyamin Rami Levy supermarket

J Street’s Ben-Ami Pushes Dangerous ‘67 Borders, Praises Arafat as Peacemaker

On December 16, 2015, Jeremy Ben-Ami, founder and president of the Soros-funded anti-Zionist group J Street, gave an Orwellian, falsehood-filled speech at Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, New York. Ben-Ami urged pressuring Israel to retreat to the indefensible “green line.” He portrayed lifelong terrorist Yasser Arafat as a reformed man of peace, and he showed a J Street video that included a map that relabeled eastern Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria as the “Occupied West Bank.” Ben-Ami lied about J Street’s support for a Palestinian right of return and non-recognition of the Jewish State. He falsely portrayed Jewish “settlements” as the main obstacle to peace, when the real obstacle is that Arabs do not accept Israel within any borders and instead incite and engage in terrorism. He lied about the Iran deal and avoided addressing Iran’s violations. He denied that PA leaders’ incitement is causing Palestinian Arab terrorism and instead falsely blamed Israel. Finally, he lied about J Street’s support for BDS.

In UN Speech, Abbas Justifies Palestinian Arab Attacks, Murder of Jews

The ZOA has condemned PA President Mah-

A new Palestinian Arab poll has shown that a “growing majority” of Palestinian Arabs, some 67 percent, support the recent scourge of knifing attacks, car rammings, and murders of Israeli Jews.

Asked in 2008 by an interviewer, “In the map that Olmert presented you, Israel would annex 6.3 percent [of Judea and Samaria] and compensate the Palestinians with 5.8 percent [taken from pre-1967 Israel]. What did you propose in return?” Abbas replied: “I did not agree ... I rejected it out of hand.”

mouid Abbas for a recent speech in which he offered a revolting justification for the recent tide of Palestinian Arab stabbings, car rammings, and murders of innocent Jews. During a speech marking the UN’s International Anti-Corruption Day at Red Cross and Red Crescent headquarters in El-Bireh, Abbas described the terrorist attacks that by then had claimed the lives of 20 Israelis as “justified popular unrest” triggered by “the despair of young Palestinians over the lack of a political horizon for the two-state solution, the invasion [sic] of the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the continuation of settlement building and military checkpoint deployment...[Young Palestinians have given up on seeking a Palestinian state because they had seen that] our state doesn’t exist because of the settlements and checkpoints, and despair started to seep in.” (*Times of Israel*, Dec. 4, 2015, at <http://bit.ly/1k0j2UC>).

UN’s Ban Ki-moon Condemns Terror Attacks on Civilians in Many Countries—But Not in Israel

The ZOA has criticized United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for omitting Israel from a list of countries he mentioned in remarks condemning recent terrorist attacks on civilians. Israel has been the most consistent target of terrorist attacks for decades and has lost the lives of more than 1,500 Israeli Jewish civilians since the 1993 Oslo process commenced. In 2015 alone, 30 Israeli Jewish civilians were murdered by terrorists, including 8 in the month preceding Mr. Ban’s comments. Yet, prior to the official launch of the Paris climate conference, Mr. Ban called for a moment of silence to commemorate the 132 victims of the November jihadist terrorist attacks in Paris, and those killed in other recent terrorist attacks around the world, saying: “I would like to express my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of all recent victims of terrorism. No cause or grievance can justify the violence we have seen in recent days and weeks, here in Paris, Beirut, Baghdad, Tunis, Bamako, and elsewhere.”

Abbas Admits Rejecting Olmert’s Offer of Palestinian State With No Counter-Offer

The ZOA has pointed to PA President Abbas’ re-

cent open admission that he turned down then-Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert’s 2008 generous peace offer and made no counter-offer. Abbas had never publicly admitted that he turned down Mr. Olmert’s offer — which would have provided for an independent Palestinian Arab state consisting of all of the Gaza Strip, almost all of Judea/Samaria (with compensating land swaps for territory retained by Israel), a tunnel connecting Judea/Samaria and Gaza, and a capital in eastern Jerusalem. Israel would also have acceded to the return to Israel of 5,000 Palestinian Arab refugees of the 1948-49 war — 1,000 per year, over 5 years.

In an interview on Israel’s Channel 10, Abbas said Olmert presented him in September 2008 with a map that delineated the borders of the future State of Palestine. Asked by an interviewer: “In the map that Olmert presented you, Israel would annex 6.3 percent [of Judea and Samaria] and compensate the Palestinian Arabs with 5.8 percent [taken from pre-1967 Israel]; what did you propose in return?” Abbas replied: “I did not agree ... I rejected it out of hand.”

ZOA Condemns John Kerry for Claiming Some Terrorism is Legitimate, Has Rationale

ZOA President Morton A. Klein has released the following statement:

The Zionist Organization of America strongly condemns Secretary of State John Kerry for claiming that some terrorism against innocent civilians is legitimate and has an understandable rationale. ZOA demands that Kerry retract and apologize for his abhorrent and absurd claim. Kerry described the murders of 12 Charlie Hebdo cartoonists and journalists by radical Islamist terrorists last January as having a “rationale.” Kerry also started out asserting that these murders perhaps had “legitimacy” before settling on the equally offensive term “rationale.” And, in a similar vein, Kerry outrageously and disgracefully demanded that we should “understand” that, in essence, Israel is to blame for ISIS/ISIL recruitment and for “street anger and agitation” that the terrorists “felt and had to respond to...”

ZOA Objects to Obama Administration Stance on EU Labeling Policy, Praises Dissenters

The ZOA has criticized the Obama administration, following a disclosure from the State Department that the U.S. supports the recent European Union decision to start labeling Israeli products produced in Judea/Samaria. The EU is set to label such goods “Israeli Settlement Product,” rather than “Made in Israel,” as has been the case until now. The organization praised Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Representative Doug Lamborn (R-CO) for authoring letters to EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini urging the EU not to implement additional labeling requirements for Israeli goods imported to Europe.

ZOA Praises Congressional Letters Opposing PA Incitement to Violence

The ZOA praised House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA) and ranking member Eliot Engel (D-NY) for circulating a letter to PA chief Abbas, urging an end to PA incitement. The letter, signed by 369 House members, made clear that knifing attacks and other murderous acts by Palestinian Arabs against Israeli Jews are directly attributable to statements and actions of the PA. In addition, the House passed a resolution, sponsored by Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), “expressing concern over anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement within the Palestinian Authority.”

UC Berkeley’s SJP Incited Violence against Jews and Israelis

Students have reported to us that the so-called SJP held a so-called International Day of Action on October 14 on Sproul Plaza. The event was, in truth, an all-out effort to bash and demonize the Jewish state of Israel. To counter the group’s hateful messages, two pro-Israel student groups at UC Berkeley — Bears for Israel and Tikvah — organized a peaceful pro-Israel rally at the same time and place.

After almost an hour of vicious anti-Israel speeches by SJP members, the group’s leader began his own speech by calling for an “intifada,” the

term used for the violent and murderous Palestinian Arab terror against Jews in Israel. From 2000 to 2005, almost 2,000 people were murdered and 10,000 maimed during the intifada there. Using a microphone to amplify his hateful words, the SJP leader riled up the crowd, encouraging them to repeat his chant, “Intifada, Intifada, we support the Intifada!” (This is the same as chanting: Violence and murder, violence and murder, we support violence and murder against Jews.)

The scene was chilling. Everyone present plainly knew that the SJP leader, in the center of the UC Berkeley campus, was inciting violence and murder against Jews.

You can watch the incitement, and the crowd’s enthusiastic response, here: <https://www.facebook.com/theZOA/videos/vb.259632267542/10153158399867543/?type=2&theater>.

A Jewish student from France who attended the pro-Israel rally was shocked and frightened by the SJP leader’s call to violence. The student — who attends the UC Berkeley law school and hails from France, where there is growing anti-Semitism — was stunned to witness blatant anti-Semitism and a call to violence against Jews on an American college campus that supposedly values respect, tolerance, diversity, and non-violence.

ZOA to UC Berkeley: Stop Calls for Violence and Murder of Jews on Your Campus

The ZOA issued the following letter on October 30 to University of California, Berkeley, Chancellor Nicholas B. Dirks:

We write on behalf of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), the oldest and one of the largest pro-Israel organizations in the U.S. whose mission includes fighting anti-Semitism in all its forms, in the media, in schools, and on college campuses.

We are pleased to learn that you have formed the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Jewish Student Life and Campus Climate, which surely signals your concern about the matter. But we ask that you personally immediately address recent frightening and reprehensible events on the UC Berkeley campus, provoked by the so-called “Students for Justice in Palestine” (SJP) group.

The letter, signed by 369 House members, made clear that knifing attacks and other murderous acts by Palestinian Arabs against Israeli Jews are directly attributable to statements and actions of the PA.

Abbas promised that those who attack Jews and Christians would be martyrs who will go to paradise.

Jewish students at UC Berkeley have reported to us that on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2015, the SJP held an anti-Israel demonstration on Sproul Plaza and shockingly called for and incited violence and murder against Jews and Israelis. Within minutes of the incitement, a Jewish student was actually verbally and physically assaulted. The SJP's actions have caused Jewish and Israeli students to feel afraid for their safety. We urge you to take immediate remedial action, as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, before others act on the SJP's deliberate provocation of violence and members of the campus community get seriously hurt—or worse.

ZOA Aided in Univ. of CA Regents Now Defining Anti-Zionism as Anti-Semitism

The University of California (UC) Board of Regents, which oversees 10 UC campuses and nearly 240,000 students, voted unanimously to adopt a statement of Principles Against Intolerance which, for the first time, recognizes the connection between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism. The document includes the Regents' strong statement that "anti-Semitism, anti-Semitic forms of anti-Zionism, and other forms of discrimination have no place at the University of California." This document is a vast improvement over the statement that the Regents initially considered adopting last September, which did not even mention anti-Semitism.

The ZOA has been working closely with our regional partners to lobby the UC Regents to identify the various forms of anti-Semitism that Jewish students are facing and to implement an effective response that will ensure them a safe and respectful learning environment. ZOA's chapter in the Western region collaborated with the ZOA Center for Law and Justice to develop statements and provide information to the UC Regents, in addition to working with the ZOA Campus Department to identify specific anti-Semitic incidents that college students have been subjected to. The lobbying effort lasted over a year and was bitterly contested by the anti-Semitic hate groups Jewish Voice for Peace and Students for Justice in Palestine.

While the ZOA and our partner organizations have achieved a significant victory, the fight to en-

sure that university leaders respond effectively to anti-Semitic speech and actions on the UC campuses continues. The Regents' statement is an important step in the right direction.

ZOA: Israel Must Discipline Israeli Arab MKs Who Support and Encourage Attacks on Jews

The ZOA has urged the Israeli government to discipline Israeli Arab MKs who recently supported law-breaking and encouraged Arabs to physically attack Jews in Jerusalem. Israeli Arab MK Ahmed Tibi, for one, recently hit an Israeli police officer (<http://bit.ly/1PAv1li>). The ZOA is urging Israel to strip them of parliamentary immunity from prosecution.

Last September, MK Touma Sliman (Joint Arab List) stated on the Israeli radio station Reshet Bet that "Arab violence in Jerusalem is expression of universal right to oppose occupation" (<http://bit.ly/1KPFWMA>). Ms. Sliman neither condemned nor discouraged the violence, nor said anything to indicate that she believed that the law had to be upheld.

ZOA: Obama and World Silent as PA's Abbas Calls for Murder of "Filthy" Jews

The ZOA is calling on President Obama and other world and Jewish leaders to forcefully condemn the call by Mahmoud Abbas to murder "filthy" Jews and "filthy" Christians to prevent them from "defiling" the Temple Mount and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the holiest places in the Jewish and Christian faiths. Abbas promised that those who attack Jews and Christians would be martyrs who will go to paradise. This is an immoral, Nazi-like outrage. Jewish and Christian lives matter.

The Temple Mount is the site of Jewish patriarch Abraham's binding of Isaac, the holy first Jewish Temple (King Solomon's Temple) and the holy second Jewish Temple. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher is venerated by many Christian denominations as the site of Jesus's crucifixion, burial, and resurrection — and is currently home to Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and other Christian denominations.

PA Chairman Abbas met with a Palestinian Arab

terrorist group — euphemistically called “activists for the defense of the Noble Sanctuary” — which hurls rocks and boulders at Jews praying on the Temple Mount. On official PA television last September, the PA exhorted this violent terrorist group as follows: “We bless you, we bless the murabitin [those carrying out ribat, religious conflict/war to protect land claimed to be Islamic], we bless every drop of blood that has been spilled for Jerusalem, which is clean and pure blood, blood spilled for Allah, Allah willing. Every Martyr will reach Paradise, and everyone wounded will be rewarded by Allah. The Al-Aqsa [Mosque on the Temple Mount] is ours, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher is ours, and they have no right to defile them with their filthy feet. We will not allow them to, and we will do everything in our power to protect Jerusalem.” (<http://bit.ly/1mqy5Z4>)

DC Rally Against Iran Deal, Co-Sponsored by ZOA, Draws More Than 5,000


A major rally opposing President Obama’s disastrous Iran nuclear deal — sponsored by the ZOA, the Tea Party, and the Center for Security Policy (CSP) — drew more than 5,000 people despite the extreme heat. Senator Ted Cruz, Donald Trump, CSP founder Frank Gaffney, former CIA Director R. James Woolsey, Michele Bachmann, Sarah Palin, radio talk-show host Mark Levin, talk-show host Glenn Beck, and ZOA National President Morton Klein were among those who addressed the crowd. A host of others also called on Congress to reject the Iran deal, which leaves Iran’s nuclear weapons program intact while providing Iran with a pathway to nuclear weapons in perhaps as little as 10 years, as well as with \$150 billion in unfrozen assets and tens of billions of dollars annually in sanctions relief. Numerous congressional Democrats who were invited to speak at the rally either declined or did not return phone calls.

ZOA Campus Staffer from Africa Survived Civil War, Became a Zionist

Pandit Mami, a ZOA staffer born in Sierra Leone, travels to college campuses to help pro-Israel student groups. Pandit is tall, with a noticeably broad smile that can brighten an entire room.

How, you may ask, did a guy from Sierra Leone get involved with Zionism? Pandit was just 7 years old when the civil war reached him in the capital city of Freetown. During that time, he had firsthand experiences with numerous child soldiers. “One time, my sister and I were stopped by a 9-year-old with an AK-47. He made us carry a TV. We didn’t say a word, because he could just kill you.” Pandit explains that child soldiers are the worst: “One of the things they would tell the children is that people don’t take you seriously. So when people disobey you, then you have to set an example — you call one person out and shoot, and when you kill a few people, then people will take you seriously. So these kids have this mentality, that to prove they have power, they have to demonstrate power.”

Author Ishmael Beah was one of those child soldiers. In Ishmael’s memoir, “A Long Way Gone,” he tells of being recruited by the government army: “We were taken to a nearby banana farm where we practiced stabbing the banana trees with bayonets. ‘Visualize the banana tree as the enemy, the rebels who killed your family, and those who are responsible for everything that has happened to you,’ the corporal screamed. ... Over and over in our training he would say that same sentence: ‘Visualize the enemy, the rebels are responsible for everything that has happened to you.’”

Pandit’s personal experiences with children like Ishmael led him to devote himself to defending Israel. Pandit knows that Hamas is training thousands of child soldiers in Gaza. The use of child soldiers is just as much an inhumane practice in Gaza as in Sierra Leone, but with one remarkable difference: in the case of Sierra Leone, the UN condemned it, while in the case of Gaza, the UN funds it. The jacket cover of Beah’s book says: “At 16, he was removed from the fighting by UNICEF, and through the help of the staff at his rehabilitation center, he learned how to regain his humanity, and finally to heal.” Tragically, the children in Gaza will never have this chance, because in Gaza the UN schools help to create the child soldiers. Pandit said it breaks his heart when he thinks about the child soldiers in Gaza. By working with the ZOA, he is able to defend Israel while at the same time fighting against the creation of more child soldiers. 

The UC Board of Regents voted unanimously to adopt a statement recognizing the connection between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism.



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