



ZOA REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



ZOA delegates listening to Congressional speeches at luncheon



Left: Cong. Dennis Ross (R-FL), Center Background: Cong. Steve Rothman (D-NJ), Right: Cong. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) attend ZOA luncheon

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PA Official: No One in PA Recognizes Israel

and more...

FALL 2011

HUNDREDS OF ZOA ACTIVISTS MEET WITH 160 CONGRESS MEMBERS



Cong. Allen West (R-FL) and ZOA President Morton A. Klein



Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) addressing ZOA Delegates



Glenn Beck To Receive Adelson Defender Of Israel Award At ZOA Dinner



U.S. Cong. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, House Foreign Affairs Committee Chair To Receive Moskowitz Award



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Obama's Dangerous Policy Shift

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Since

President Barack Obama's policy speeches in late spring regarding Israel and the Palestinian Arabs, much ink has been spilled arguing that they contain no new or troubling policy developments and that all is well in the U.S./Israel relationship. Sadly, this is not so. In his two and half years in office, President Obama has sought to distance the U.S. from Israel and to empower Israel's enemies. Reassuring bromides in his recent presidential addresses regarding his commitment to Israel's security were nullified by specific statements that spell out dangerous Israeli concessions and disregard of Israeli vital interests.

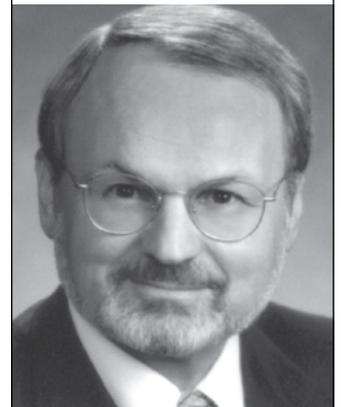
Indeed, only days after Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah-controlled Palestinian Authority (PA) signed a unity government agreement with Hamas, the U.S. and E.U.-listed terrorist organization which calls in its charter for the destruction of Israel and murder of Jews, President Barack Obama urged Israel to make major concessions to the Palestinians.

In fact, Obama did more: He heralded a significant shift in U.S. policy, saying the borders of Israel and a Palestinian state "should be based on the 1967 lines [i.e., the 1949 armistice lines] with mutually agreed swaps." In a sentence, Obama discarded U.N. Security Council Resolution 242's insistence on secure and recognized borders for Israel. This has always been understood to mean no return to the perilous 1949 armistice lines.

As Lyndon Johnson put it in 1967, a return to the 1949 armistice lines "was not a prescription for peace, but for renewed hostilities." Or again, as Ronald Reagan said in 1982, "In the pre-1967 borders, Israel was barely ten miles wide at its narrowest point ... I am not about to ask Israel to live that way again." But Obama just did.

Instead, Obama calls now for a "full and phased Israeli withdrawal." He has also refused to endorse the 2004 George W. Bush letter, stipulating that delineating a negotiated border must take account of Jewish communities that have risen over the years beyond the 1949 armistice lines and that Palestinian "refugees" would not be settled within Israel.

Obama said that Israel must have secure, recognized borders "different than the one that existed on June 4, 1967." Yet this means little when the new borders are to be based on these lines "with mutually agreed swaps" and therefore virtually indistinguishable from those lines. This means that Israel cannot retain anything over these lines – the Temple



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Mount, the Western Wall, the Jewish neighborhoods of eastern Jerusalem, Ariel, Efrat and Maale Adumim and so on – unless the Fatah/Hamas PA agrees. The PA gets an absolute veto. This dramatically weakens Israel's negotiating position. President Obama did not support a single Israeli position, even though Israel has been America's most reliable ally since 1948, while the PA has violated every signed agreement since Oslo.

Moreover, President Obama's unprecedented call for a Palestinian state to have "permanent Palestinian borders with... Jordan"

would require Israel ceding the Jordan Valley, whose retention every Israeli government has regarded as vital to Israeli security. The Jordan Valley is a strategically vital land barrier whose possession by Israel makes it possible for Israel to repulse an invasion from the east. U.S. and Israeli military experts have repeatedly stated that the retention of the Jordan Valley is essential for Israeli defense. The late Yitzhak Rabin said as much in his last speech to the Knesset in October 1995. Benjamin Netanyahu has reaffirmed it. Obama ignores this.

Unlike any previous

president, Obama declared that Israel should first set up a Palestinian state more or less along the 1949 armistice lines and only then discuss the vital issues of Jerusalem and the Palestinian "refugees" of the 1948-9 war and their millions of descendants. By making this declaration, President Obama eliminates any leverage Israel would have on the final outcome on those two vital issues.

Upholding Israel's basic security and survival as a Jewish state would mean repudiating the repatriation of the "refugees" and their descendants in Israel, but Obama did not. To the

contrary, he has supported the so-called Saudi peace plan, which demands not only a return to the 1949 lines, but also the return of all "refugees" and their descendants to Israel.

Even worse, President Obama has done this at the very time that Fatah has formed a unity government with the terrorist organization Hamas, whose charter calls for a genocide of Jews. Regarding Hamas, President Obama only made an insubstantial call for the PA to "explain" how this unity government agreement was consistent with pursuing a peace settlement. What he did not



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Martin Gross
President,
Washington Institute for Near East Policy

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

say – and should have said loudly and clearly – was that the U.S. could not and would not deal with a Fatah/Hamas unity government and that the U.S. could not and would not continue to provide the PA with U.S. taxpayer-funded aid.

Given this infamous Fatah/Hamas PA unity government agreement, the PA's refusal to negotiate with Israel, and the failure of the PA over nearly 18 years to fulfill its signed Oslo commitments to arrest terrorists, outlaw terrorist groups and end the incitement to hatred and murder in the PA-controlled media, mosques, schools and youth camps, why should the PA receive 100% of what it is demanding? A negotiated "compromise" that results in Israel giving – and the PA receiving – 100% of the territory, or at least equivalent amount of territory, is scarcely a compromise at all. To support the PA claims as President Obama has done is to further reward terrorism and incitement.

Concern for Israel's security has not led Obama to pressure Egypt to close its Gaza border at Rafah, whose recent opening has enabled an increased flow of weaponry into Hamas-run Gaza. But he has spoken previously of the "legitimate aims" of Hamas

and Hezbollah. Concern for Israeli security would not lead Obama to turn a blind eye to PA incitement to hatred and murder against Israel and Jews. Yet Obama has shown less interest than his predecessors in doing anything about it. Obama reiterated in his speeches that the U.S. "will hold the Palestinians accountable for their actions and for their rhetoric." But he never has – nor does he even now.

He has never identified the PA as responsible for incitement and thus has not penalized it. When in 2010 the PA named a Ramallah square after the terrorist Dalal Mughrabi, the Administration falsely claimed that this was the brainchild of a "Hamas-run municipality." In March 2011, neither President Obama nor Secretary of State Hillary Clinton condemned the PA naming of another square after Mughrabi the very day after the bestial murders in their beds of five members of the Fogel family. Asked repeatedly by ZOA and other American Jewish organizations to condemn it, neither President Obama nor Secretary Clinton did so.

If Obama was genuine about holding the PA accountable, he would demand the disbanding of Fatah's own Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a U.S. recognized terrorist group. He would demand the

AROUND THE COUNTRY WITH MORTON KLEIN

Appearance on National Fox TV "Fox & Friends" discussion about President Obama's policies toward Israel.

Several appearances on *Shalom TV*.

Interviews on radio programs in Alabama, New Mexico, Florida, Tennessee, Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Speeches at Temple Emanuel, Palm Beach Florida; Young Israel of Hollywood; Boca Raton Synagogue, Florida; Valley Beth Shalom Synagogue, Los Angeles; Philadelphia ZOA Dinner, Michigan ZOA Chapter, LA ZOA Chapter.

Scholar-In-Residence in Orlando, Florida Passover program at Hilton Hotel along with distinguished attorney Nathan Lewin, Esq.

Articles and Letters published in *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *LA Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Middle East Quarterly*, *Jerusalem Post*, Israel's largest daily *Yediot Ahronot*, *The Forward*, *New York Jewish Week*, *LA Jewish Journal*, *Washington Jewish Week*, *Philadelphia Jewish Exponent*, *Jewish Press*, *Muslim World Today*, and many others.

abrogation of the PA's unity agreement with Hamas as a precondition of any future talks. He has done neither. Far from holding "Palestinians accountable," Obama has consistently rewarded them, massively increasing aid to the PA to almost \$1 billion per year.

It's a disgrace that a U.S. President can continue using taxpayers' dollars to sustain the PA Fatah/Hamas regime whose Fatah leader, Mahmoud Abbas, repeatedly promises that "not a single Jew would remain in a Palestinian state" and who said to a meeting of Arab

writers and journalists in Jordan last year that if the Arab states "want war, and if all of you will fight Israel, we are in favor." Under Abbas, the PA has named dozens of schools, streets, and sports teams after Jew-killing terrorists. The 43rd anniversary emblem of Fatah shows Israel labeled "Palestine," draped in a Palestinian headdress, with a photo of arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat and a Kalashnikov automatic rifle.

For a year, Obama prohibited a vote by

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Hundreds of ZOA Activists Come to Washington, D.C.

Meet with 160 Congress Members

In late spring,

hundreds of Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) activists from across the country took part in the ZOA's Annual Advocacy Mission to Washington, D.C. ZOA activists urged Congress to take the following steps: (1) End all U.S. financial assistance of \$900 million dollars per year to the Palestinian Authority (PA) and end all relations with the PA as long as its merger with the Nazi-like, Jew-killing Hamas remains intact. Additionally, U.S. aid to the PA must cease unless and until the PA fulfills its written obligations to end the promotion of hatred and violence against Jewish Israelis in their schools, media, and speeches; to arrest Jew-killing terrorists; and to outlaw terrorist groups. Since the Oslo process began in 1993, the PA has received billions of dollars. Yet the PA continues to name schools, streets and sports teams after Jew-killing terrorists, which honors and glorifies murder, and encourages young Palestinians to become killers. (2) Support newly proposed legislation (the "Jerusalem Embassy and Recognition Act of 2011" [H.R. 1006]) to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and remove the security waiver that now exists and that has been invoked since 1995, by Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama. (3) Oppose a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian Arab state which would violate the Oslo II agreements signed by the PA, thereby rendering such a declaration illegal. In addition to urging Congress to support legislation that would penalize any such attempts by the PA, ZOA activists asked lawmakers to urge the White House to lead diplomatic efforts to persuade other nations to oppose a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian Arab state.

At the ZOA's Congressional Luncheon, held in a beautiful room on the top floor of the Hart Senate Office Building with breathtaking views of Washington, D.C., ZOA activists heard speeches from several dozen U.S. Senators and House Members, almost evenly split between Democrats and Republicans, who joined them at the Luncheon. A sampling of the remarks made by U.S. Congress members at the ZOA Mission Luncheon:

Sen. Mark Pryor (D-AK): "The United States has a special relationship with Israel . . . based on shared values, principles and interests...Israel is the best friend we have in the region – and maybe the best friend in all the world."... Noting that Arkansas has one of the smallest populations



ZOA Board Member Gene Shusman with Cong. Allen West (R-FL)

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ZOA delegates applaud a Congressional address.

of Jews in the U.S., Sen. Pryor said, “It’s amazing how many people will say to me, ‘Cut this, cut that, but don’t cut the aid to Israel.... Thank you for doing what you do.’”

Sen. John Boozman (R-AK): “I just want to compliment you on being here...Don’t ever underestimate how important it is to be here...[meeting with House Members and Senators] eyeball to eyeball...In this very uncertain time...I want you to know that I’m very supportive and committed.”

Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT): “I’m a friend of your organization. I’m a friend of the state of Israel.” [Sen. Lee and his wife] are “life-long fans” of Israel...“Those who want to destroy Israel have their sights set on destroying the United States... You have my commitment to do everything I can to stand up for the U.S.-Israel relationship...May G-d bless the sovereign state of Israel and the United States of America.”

Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY): Sen. Barrasso has had “the great privilege to go to Israel four different times” and has seen for himself “just how small and fragile Israel is . . . Hamas is a vital enemy of the Israeli people” and Sen. Barrasso has “great concerns about that...Thank you for all you do for Israel, America, for democracy . . . the United States has no better friend than the people of Israel.”

Cong. Allen B. West (R-FL): Wishing a “happy 63rd birthday to the modern state of Israel,” Cong. West criticized the agreement between Fatah and Hamas, saying “the

United States should not be sending hard-earned taxpayers’ dollars” to the Palestinian Arabs . . . In a letter Cong. West wrote to U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice, he stated that if the UN recognizes a state of Palestine, “the United States is allowing the creation of a new terrorist state. We cannot allow that” . . . Israel is “our most important ally.”

Cong. Eliot Engel (D-NY): “There’s never been a ZOA function I haven’t attended [and although he had votes to cast, Cong. Engel said that he made sure to attend the ZOA Congressional Luncheon] as a show of respect” to the ZOA. . . . “The [Obama] administration is doing some very good things [for Israel’s defense] . . . but the rhetoric coming out of the White House doesn’t help.” . . . [Noting that Israel cannot take security risks], Cong. Engel said, “I don’t care if the United States wants it or the American president wants it...ZOA has always adhered to very strong principles. You’re not wishy-washy. I want to commend you. You have always championed the right things.”

Cong. Shelley Berkley (D-NV): “I’m mishpuchah [family] and a proud member of ZOA. I’d be remiss if I didn’t mention my good friend Mort Klein. We’ve been ‘partners in crime’ and in good for many years now. I don’t know anyone more devoted to issues we care about.” Referring to President Obama making the so-called “settlements” an issue, Cong. Berkley said, “How anybody would think that building up established settlements would be an impediment to peace is a mystery to me. It was a mistake of monumental proportions . . . It is essential that the United States of America veto that [anticipated PA] resolution for recognizing a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian Arab state. They will not create a peaceful state living side by side with Israel” . . . [it will be] “a terrorist stronghold to eliminate Israel. We cannot allow that to happen...The United States must make sure that the radical elements of Egypt do not take over that government ...Jerusalem is the eternal, undivided capital of the state of Israel. As long as there is breath in my body, it will continue to be the eternal undivided capital.” . . . [Referring to the ZOA activists] “you being here is essential to the survival of Israel and the survival of our people . . . there isn’t a group more passionate than the ZOA or more effective in getting our positions across . . . thank you for being here.”

Cong. Steve Rothman (D-NJ): “Thank you to each of you for your advocacy...I’ve been working for a strong United States-Israel relationship for the last 43 years...We get back 1000 times whatever we give to Israel in military aid... Let’s remember who our friends are...the United States of

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America and Israel.”

Cong. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY): “This is a time of great danger for Israel in the Middle East. The United States has to stand by Israel.” Cong. Nadler said that while he himself supports a Palestinian Arab state, “the Palestinians do not have a right to a state.” If there is such a state, it “has to be a state where the security concerns of Israel are paramount...A Palestinian state unilaterally declared is a mortal danger and cannot be allowed to happen. The United States must not allow it...The other mortal danger to Israel is Iran...We must stand by Israel even if the rest of the world doesn’t...We have to keep working to make sure the United States remains secure and an ally of Israel.”

Cong. Joe Walsh (R-IL): “This is a critical time, a turbulent time for the Middle East. The one constant in the Middle East is the unwavering support, the unyielding support for Israel . . . I am pro-Israel first, pro-peace second. We are not an umpire judging a contest between two equal teams.” Referring to terrorists, he said, “We are dealing with an enemy that only understands strength.” If the United States strongly supports Israel, “that will lead to peace.”

Cong. Dennis Ross (R-FL): “I recognize that it’s not the 63rd birthday of the Jewish people. That goes back to the beginning of time.” Regarding Jerusalem, “that’s where the capital [of Israel] should be . . . the Jewish people hold claim to this area...It should be the unequivocal policy [of the United States] that Hamas is a terrorist organization. [Cong. Ross and his colleagues in Congress] “must continue to condemn and be vigilant in condemning anti-Semitism...When I go to visit Israel for the first time in August, how proud I’d be if my passport was stamped ‘Jerusalem, Israel’...I for one will stand with Israel, with America’s relationship with Israel.”

Cong. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN): “Rest assured. I am 100 percent behind Israel. Israel is our only true ally in the Middle East. We have a special bond. I intend to vote that way in Congress...Please consider myself a resource, a friend . . . thank you so much for advocating for Israel. Please be heard . . .When enemies of the United States and Israel don’t even hide their hatred, that’s a clear message that we have to stand strong.” It’s “so important that we not let rhetoric against the United States and Israel go unanswered . . . the Holocaust started with hateful rhetoric . . . we will pay attention in Congress.”

Cong. Doug Lamborn (R-CO): “You’ve got a great organization. G-d bless.”

Former Cong. Anthony Weiner (D-NY): “I represent the

ZOA wing of the Democratic party...You guys are here for action . . . The United States “shouldn’t do anything that implies kinship or sponsorship with Saudi Arabia . . . [a country which] sponsors terrorism. [For as long as the PA has a pact with Hamas, the PA should receive] “not a dime, not a dollar, not a shekel...The time has come to commute the sentence of Jonathan Pollard . . . life imprisonment without parole is simply inhumane and not just...One of the ways we say ‘G-d bless America’ is to say ‘Am Yisrael Chai’ [the nation of Israel lives].”

ZOA activists also heard from Richard Hellman, president of Christians’ Israel Public Action Campaign, who applauded ZOA National President Morton A. Klein and the ZOA “for working for the strongest possible support for Israel.” In addition, Jeff Daube, Director of the ZOA’s Israel office, discussed the ZOA’s efforts in Israel and its campaign to address the ongoing abuse of mourners and gravesites on Israel’s Mount of Olives, the oldest Jewish cemetery in the world.

ZOA National President Morton A. Klein also addressed the hundreds of ZOA activists, describing the enormous dangers of the new unity agreement between the Fatah-



U.S. Cong. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) who heads up the Democratic National Committee greets ZOA delegates

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controlled PA and Hamas. Klein pointed out that, in its constitution, Fatah calls for the destruction of Israel and the use of terrorism as an indispensable element in the struggle to achieve its goals. In recent years, Fatah commissioned an official emblem depicting all of Israel as “Palestine” and covered in a Palestinian Arab keffiyeh, with a picture of the terrorist Yasser Arafat in the center and a Kalashnikov rifle on the side. Hamas in its charter calls for the murder of Jews and the destruction of Israel. It is this continuing promotion of hatred and murder of Jews and Israelis, said Klein, that recently led to the massacre of the Fogel family, including three small children, in Itamar. Despite the shocking fact that PA

leaders shortly after named a town square after Dalal Mughrabi who led a terrorist attack in Israel resulting in the murder of 37 Jews, not one major official in the Obama administration condemned it.

Mr. Klein told the ZOA activists that in the wake of the Fatah-Hamas unity agreement, a senior Fatah official said, “No one in Fatah and Hamas movements recognizes Israel.”

Mort Klein thanked the entire ZOA staff including Stan Kessock, Virginia Gilley, Felice Capustin, Harriet Bachmann, Josh Teplow, Josh Nason and David Kadosh for their hard work in making the ZOA’s Advocacy Mission to Washington, D.C. such a success. Josh London and Dan Pollak,



ZOA delegate making a point

Co-Directors of the ZOA’s Government Relations Department, were the mas-

ters of ceremony at the luncheon event and led the discussion of the issues.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

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Congress on further U.S. sanctions upon Iran, despite overwhelming support for such measures within the Congress and the absence of any concessions by Iran on the issue of its nuclear weapons program – the existential looming threat to Israel, the U.S. and the West. Yet, what further measures must be taken to stop Iran is precisely the issue

Obama left untouched in his recent speeches. While he has claimed that he will do “everything” to stop Iran getting the bomb, Obama has ignored his own deadlines and achieved only limited international sanctions that provide exemptions for the Russians and Chinese who are actually enabling the Iranian nuclear program.

Now, after helping oust the Mubarak regime in Egypt, a repressive regime

but a U.S. ally that has at least maintained a cold peace with Israel, Obama has legitimized the Islamist Muslim Brotherhood. Our State Department will now allow diplomats to deal directly with Muslim Brotherhood party officials in Cairo. Worse, the Obama Administration has recently announced that it will sell 125 M1A1 Abrams tanks to the new Egyptian government, despite the

negative developments in Egypt this year that indicate that Egypt is becoming quickly and increasingly an American enemy, not an ally.

Not only does the Brotherhood not recognize Israel, but its new leader, Muhammad Badi’, spoke last year of the virtues of jihad and a state based on Islamic law, while euphorically declaring that the U.S. is heading

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ZOA Uses New Title VI Policy to Remedy Hostile Anti-Semitic Environment at Maine High School

On October 26, 2010, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued a "Dear Colleague" letter that addressed bullying and harassment in publicly funded schools. In the letter, OCR finally made it clear that Jewish students would be protected from anti-Semitic harassment and intimidation under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This is a policy clarification that the ZOA fought hard to obtain. After OCR refused to enforce Title VI to protect Jewish students at the University of California, Irvine – a campus that one Jewish student leader described as "a hotbed for anti-Israel and anti-Semitic activism" – and dismissed the ZOA's Title VI complaint against the university, the ZOA became a leading advocate for ensuring that Jewish students have the same civil rights protections from a hostile school environment as other ethnic and racial groups.

Only a few short weeks after OCR issued the policy letter last October, the ZOA was contacted by the family of a Jewish high school student ("JP") in Maine who, for more than one year, had been subjected to anti-Semitic threats, harassment and intimidation by fellow students, including the following:

- A swastika was drawn on a desk at the high school accompanied by



Susan Tuchman
Director,
Center for Law and Justice

the words "JP's enemies."

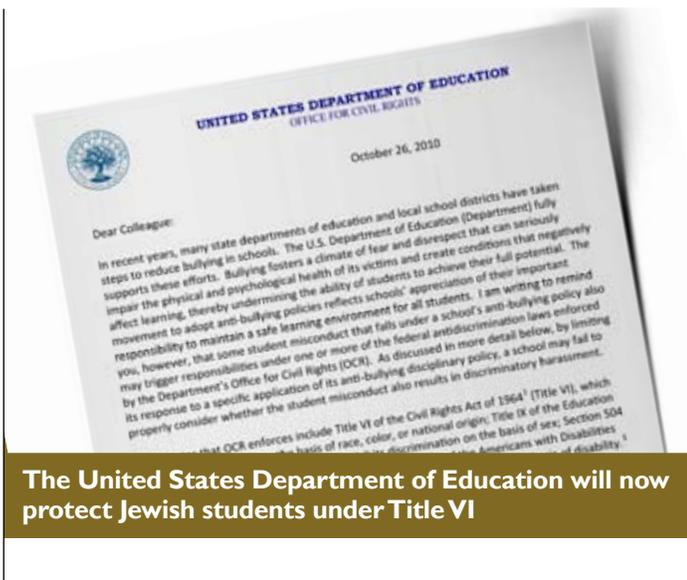
- Threatening and hateful messages were left on JP's cell phone by fellow students. One message said, "What's the difference between a Jew and a frozen pizza? A pizza doesn't scream when it's put in the oven." A second message said, "What's the difference between a Boy Scout and a Jew? A Boy Scout comes back from camp."
- As JP was leaving a local movie theater, he was confronted by several students, one of whom ran up to him and screamed in his face, "You're a Jew! You're a Jew! Why don't you act like a Jew?" The others laughed.
- A Star-of-David-like image was etched into a desk in JP's classroom, with the words, "You, Jew, I come for you."
- A picture of a smiley face bearing an Adolph Hitler moustache was found in JP's classroom.
- Students surrounded JP in the school cafeteria, repeatedly taunting him.

The effects of the hostile environment were serious. At one time a straight "A" student, JP's academic performance suffered. He became depressed and angry, with feelings of isolation and helplessness. He wasn't sleeping well and suffered from nightmares. JP became listless and almost lifeless. He no longer wanted to go to school; he did not feel safe there.

The ZOA wrote to the school principal and superintendent of the district, describing in detail the harassment and intimidation that JP was being subjected to. Enclosing a copy of OCR's October 2010 policy letter, the ZOA apprised school officials of their legal obligation under Title VI to eliminate the hostile environment and ensure that it did not recur.

After more than one year of doing virtually nothing in response to repeated complaints by JP and his family about

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE



- The school organized a meeting between one of JP's bullies and a Holocaust survivor, so that the bully could hear the survivor's first-hand experience with anti-Semitic hatred and bigotry. This meeting led to the bully finally apologizing to JP for his actions.
- The school found a peer advocate for JP, someone whom JP could count on and who would support him and help him stand up to any more bullying.

JP's family was grateful for the steps that the ZOA took on JP's behalf, which rectified the hostile school environment that the school district had for the most part ignored. In a note to Susan Tuchman, director of the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, the family wrote: "Thank you for leading us out of the desert. We don't know what we would have done without you."

the harassment, the school district finally took action in response to the ZOA's letter:

- The school provided counseling and supportive services to JP.
- The school provided staff with civil rights training on how to respond to suspected incidents of harassment, bullying, anti-Semitism, and other forms of intolerance and discrimination, and it conducted a district-wide staff meeting to discuss OCR's policy letter.
- The school conducted workshops on harassment, bullying and civil rights with each of the high school classes.
- School administrators met with the chief of police to discuss anti-Semitism and bias and hate crimes in the community, to promote police awareness of these concerns and to seek police cooperation in addressing them.
- The school presented educational programs to students from two organizations—the Center for Preventing Hate and Rachel's Challenge—to raise awareness about bias and harassment and to promote civility and kindness in schools.
- The superintendent sent a letter to all parents in the district, explaining the importance of preventing harassment and bullying in school, and describing the steps that the school district was taking to ensure that students can learn in a safe environment.
- The school arranged for the Maine Attorney General's office to provide staff training regarding discrimination and harassment.

ZOA Challenges Anti-Semitic Hostility at Rutgers and UC Santa Cruz

In April 2011, the ZOA wrote to Richard McCormick, the president of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, expressing concern about the hostile environment that Jewish students are facing there. Jewish students have been physically threatened and made to feel intimidated and even unsafe. Middle East studies courses are so biased against Israel that Jewish students avoid them or are afraid to speak up in class and express their support for Israel. On a regular basis, an anti-Israel student group called BAKA has been sponsoring and promoting events on campus that demonize Jews and Israel, thereby inciting hatred of them.

One Jewish and pro-Israel student at Rutgers who writes for the student paper received threats of violence. After the Jewish student wrote an article criticizing BAKA's hateful tactics, another student physically threatened him on Facebook, writing, "I'd [sic] be happy to see him beat with a crowbar. Violence doesn't [sic] solve problems but it shuts up people who shouldn't [sic] speak." At least seven of the writer's Facebook friends clicked "like"

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on this message, indicating their approval of the violent threat. One responded with a murderous threat of his own: “Or makes them martyrs, furthering the strength behind their beliefs. And skinning them alive so they see the afterlife.”

Understandably fearful, the Jewish student sought police protection and removed his contact information from the Rutgers directory. He also filed a bias report with the Dean of Students, which, according to university policy, is supposed to be responded to within 24 hours. But it took more than one month for the administration to respond. The Jewish student simply received a cursory e-mail from the Dean of Students, notifying him that there were insufficient grounds to charge the student who had threatened him, and that the student had simply been issued a warning. The other student who had threatened to skin the Jewish student alive apparently suffered no consequence whatsoever.

This Jewish student was also threatened, bullied and intimidated by a university official named Shehnaz Sheik Abdeljaber, the Outreach Coordinator for Rutgers’ Center for Middle East Studies. After the Jewish student wrote an article criticizing the student government’s decision to financially support the Palestine Children’s Relief Fund, Ms. Abdeljaber posted an anti-Semitic comment on Facebook, referring to the Jewish student as “that racist Zionist pig!!!!!!” Ms. Abdeljaber also encouraged other Facebook users to find the Jewish student’s hate page on Facebook—as if celebrating the fact that hateful comments had been posted about the Jewish student and inciting others to post their own.

In its letter to Rutgers’ president, the ZOA decried the many campus events demonizing Jews and Israel. One from last January, entitled “Never Again for Anyone,” falsely and offensively analogized the Nazis’ treatment of the Jews during the Holocaust to Israel’s policies and practices toward the Palestinian Arabs. The event was advertised as free and open to the public. But when a large number of Jewish and pro-Israel students and community members came to this event to protest it, an admission fee was suddenly imposed and selectively enforced: Those who were perceived as Jewish and pro-Israel had to pay to be admitted, while those who were deemed friendly to BAKA’s cause were admitted free of charge. Reportedly, inside the event, the leader of one of the sponsoring groups told the audience, “When we saw that there were . . . Zionists [meaning Jews] outside, we decided to charge.”

The ZOA provided President McCormick with a copy of the Office for Civil Rights’ policy letter of October 26, 2010, clarifying that Jewish students must be protected from anti-Semitic harassment under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The ZOA recommended that the president take several steps to eliminate the hostile campus environment, which included speaking out and publicly condemning the anti-Semitic bigotry and Israel bashing on campus, investigating the conduct of Shehnaz Abdeljaber and firing her if the evidence was verified, and reviewing university courses to redress the anti-Israel bias and intimidation of Jewish and pro-Israel students in the classroom.

President McCormick responded to the ZOA’s letter, whitewashing some of the concerns raised and ignoring others. The ZOA reissued its call for him to take action to redress the anti-Semitic hostility on campus, so that Rutgers will be in compliance with its obligations under Title VI.

Campus anti-Semitism continues to be a problem at the University of California, Santa Cruz, too. The university is currently under investigation by the Office for Civil Rights, after a university lecturer filed a Title VI complaint alleging a hostile anti-Semitic campus environment that the administration has failed to rectify.

In June, at a program sponsored by the university, a university administrator promoted and solicited support for the U.S. Boat to Gaza campaign. According to its Web site, this campaign seeks “to end the blockade of Gaza and the illegal occupation of Palestine.”

The ZOA wrote to George Blumenthal, the university chancellor, expressing concern that this campaign might be illegal under the federal anti-terrorism laws and the Neutrality Act, and that the university might be implicated as a participant and co-conspirator in illegal activity. The ZOA noted that the blockade runners on the boat to Gaza might seek to deliver money, goods, services or other support to Hamas in Gaza, which would be a crime under U.S. anti-terrorism laws. In addition, the Neutrality Act makes it a crime for individuals within the United States to begin a naval expedition against a government with whom our country is at peace, which would include our ally Israel. The ZOA urged UC Santa Cruz to cut all ties with this possibly illegal campaign, and prohibit all university faculty, staff and academic departments from promoting and supporting the campaign on campus, so that the university would not be implicated in what might be a criminal enterprise.

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

ZOA Submits Testimony to U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

On May 13, 2011, the United States Commission on Civil Rights held a hearing on the federal response to bullying in federally funded schools. The ZOA submitted a statement to the Commission describing the new Office for Civil Rights' policy clarification that Jewish students will be protected from anti-Semitic harassment under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and how the ZOA has already used this policy effectively to redress a hostile anti-Semitic environment for a Jewish high school student in Maine.

CLJ Director Speaks to Standing-Room-Only Crowd at Large Boston Suburban Synagogue

On April 28, 2011, Susan Tuchman, the director of the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, participated in a panel presentation on The Delegitimization of Israel at Our Universities. The event took place at Temple Emanuel in Newton, MA, a conservative synagogue of more than 1100 families, located in the suburbs of Boston. Hundreds of people attended the event, which was organized and moderated by Avi Goldwasser, a member of Temple Emanuel who is also co-founder of The David Project and the executive producer of Columbia Unbecoming, a documentary about the intimidation of Jewish students at Columbia University in New York.

The other panelists were Dr. Richard Cravatts of Boston University, a prolific writer on the problem of anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism in higher education; Ilana Snapstailer, direc-

tor of academic affairs at the Consulate General of Israel to New England; and Rachel Fish, formerly a senior consultant at The David Project who, when a graduate student at Harvard, singlehandedly caused the university to return a \$2.5 million gift from the leader of the United Arab Emirates, Sheik Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, because his think-tank viciously promoted the hatred of Jews. The event began with a short video depicting the problems that Jewish students are facing on many University of California campuses – speakers and programs that demonize and promote vicious falsehoods about Jews and Israel, and professors and academic departments that are unfairly biased against Israel, all of which is causing Jewish students to feel harassed, intimidated and even afraid for their physical safety. Several of the students interviewed in this video have worked closely with the ZOA to combat the hostile environment on their campuses.

After the video, each speaker made a short presentation about the problems on campus. Susan gave examples of what Jewish students are facing not only on the California campuses, but also on campuses across the country, and even in middle and high schools. Then, each panelist described what should be done to address the problem. Susan described the groundbreaking work that the ZOA has been doing to ensure that Jewish students have legal recourse if they face anti-Semitic hostility that their schools fail to address. When Susan described the Office for Civil Rights' recently-clarified policy that will now afford Jewish students the protection of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 – a policy clarification that the ZOA played a key role in achieving – the audience broke into applause.

The response to the event was enthusiastic. Many audience members remained after the event to talk with Susan about the problems on campus, and to congratulate the ZOA on its achievements. Several individuals followed up with appreciative e-mails, including one from a synagogue leader: "The program has created quite a buzz, and as you saw, it was so well attended that there was standing & 'floor sitting' room only! . . . The feedback has been both amazing and interesting. A frequent comment is 'scary but outstanding program.' Many people have commented in particular about your presentation and your comments during the question/answer period, and that they did not know about your and the ZOA's efforts on behalf of the students. We have also had inquiries to bring the program to other cities."

Avi Goldwasser also received enthusiastic feedback on the program, including requests to present the program in other cities and venues. Here are some of the comments he shared with us:

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

“The program last night was absolutely fabulous! The feedback has been amazing! You and the panel did a great job, truly giving an in depth analysis, and with suggestions of what people can do. STANDING ROOM ONLY--WOULD YOU BELIEVE!”

“Thank you again . . . for organizing this great program and bringing [it] to Temple Emanuel. It is a great program, with many great insights but Susan’s legal perspective and action plan makes it particularly useful.”

“Great event...well attended. I found the Thursday night event very interesting and informative...Atty Susan Tuchman was very effective in her presentation in which she showed so much of her personality and warmth. ZOA seems to be doing some great work...What I liked best about the program was it framed the issue as primarily a civil rights issue, but also one of fairness and a university’s openness to all ideas. I liked that the program approached the issue in a manner that Jews, whether they were politically liberal or conservatives, Democrats or Republicans, could support.”

“Congratulations . . . for a program well organized and well executed. This is the kind of program that educates and makes people aware of what’s going on in their backyard. I encourage you folks to take this show on the road . . . first in many temples in the Boston area and then to other cities.”

Bringing this program to other cities and venues would help enlighten and educate an American public that, even among Jewish Americans, is unaware of the harassment and intimidation that Jewish students are facing at their schools. The program, if widely presented, would be useful in motivating the public to speak out against the demonization of Jews and Israel on campus, and to support the ZOA’s efforts to address this ongoing and serious problem.

ZOA Files Amicus Brief with U.S. Supreme Court – Urges Enforcement of U.S. Law Permitting “Israel” to be Recorded on Passports of Jerusalem-Born Americans

In a case that could affect thousands of Jerusalem-born Americans, the ZOA filed an amicus (“friend of the court”) brief on August 5, 2011, with the U.S. Supreme Court, urging the Court to uphold the right of American citizens born in Jerusalem to have “Israel” listed as their birthplace on their passports, certifications of nationality and registrations of birth. The ZOA’s brief supports the Petitioner before the Court – Menachem Binyamin Zivotofsky, an American born in Jerusalem who, contrary to U.S. law, was refused a passport listing “Israel” as his birthplace. The passport listed only his city of birth in Jerusalem.

In 2002, Congress passed legislation permitting American citizens born in Jerusalem to have “Israel” recorded as their birthplace on their passports and other documents. President George W. Bush signed the legislation into law. The language of the law is clear, mandating the U.S. State Department to list “Israel” if a Jerusalem-born American requests it. But the State Department has refused to comply with the law, claiming that it would interfere with the President’s power to recognize foreign sovereigns. (The U.S. has not officially recognized Jerusalem as Israel’s capital.)

In 2003, Zivotofsky filed an action to enforce the law. At or about the same time, the ZOA filed a separate suit on behalf of another American citizen born in Jerusalem whose right to have “Israel” on his passport was denied. The ZOA was the only Jewish organization to take formal legal action to implement the law. The two cases were consolidated in the federal district court in Washington, D.C.

The Zivotofsky case made its way to the Supreme Court. The Court will be examining two issues: (1) whether the case involves a “political question” that the courts are not competent to resolve; and (2) whether the statute impermissibly infringes on the president’s power to recognize



ZOA’s Amicus Brief filed with the U.S. Supreme Court

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

foreign sovereigns.

The ZOA's amicus brief shows that many departments and agencies in the Executive Branch – including the State Department – have routinely referred to Jerusalem as part of the State of Israel, without any evident impact on foreign policy or any power that the President might have to recognize foreign sovereigns. It is thus very difficult to conceive of how listing “Israel” on an American citizen's passport would impermissibly infringe on foreign policy or any presidential power to recognize foreign sovereigns.

The ZOA's brief also shows that the State Department's policies and practices for issuing passports are irrational and arbitrary. And when it comes to Israel, they are offensive. The State Department's general rule is that the country that currently has sovereignty over the actual birthplace should be listed as the place of birth on American citizens' passports, regardless of when the birth occurred. But when it comes to the sovereign State of Israel, the State Department will ignore this rule and defer to the personal preferences of passport applicants who do not want to identify with Israel.

Passport applicants born before 1948 in an area that the U.S. recognizes as part of the sovereign state of Israel are not required to have “Israel” listed as their birthplace if they object to it. They can have “Palestine” recorded instead –

even though “Palestine” is not and never has been a sovereign nation. Passport applicants born in or after 1948 in an area that is under U.S.-recognized Israeli sovereignty are also not required to have “Israel” listed on their passports if they do not want it. The State Department will permit them to list their town or city of birth instead. Yet incongruously and insensitively, the Department is refusing to respect and honor the preferences of Americans born in Jerusalem who want to identify with Israel by having “Israel” listed as their birthplace on their passports. Clearly, it is not that the State Department cannot accommodate the preferences of Americans born in Jerusalem due to considerations of foreign sovereignty; the State Department simply has chosen not to accommodate them.

The Supreme Court will hear the case on November 7, 2011. Hopefully, the Court will conclude that the law is constitutional and that the State Department is mandated to enforce it. This result is not only an imperative for Americans who understand that Jerusalem is the capital of the Jewish State of Israel. It is also an imperative for those who believe in the U.S. Constitution and our system of government. When Congress enacts clearly-worded legislation, and the President signs it into law, it must be enforced.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

BRIEFINGS TO ZOA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 17, 2011

Special Guest: Danny Danon (Likud), Deputy Speaker of the Knesset

Mr. Danon explained how little has changed over time; the violence against Israel continues. When the Palestinian Authority does put Arab terrorists in jail, they live on “easy street” with cable television and a free canteen. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces pressure to deliver a Palestinian state. As long as he follows the policy of the Likud party, he will continue to be supported. We should feel the anger of the Jewish people and continue to fight making any concessions to the Palestinians. Even if Israel does make all the concessions, the Palestinians will not sign a peace agreement.

June 14, 2011

Special Guest: MK Arieh Eldad, Member of Knesset from the National Union Party, member of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committees, Chairman of the Lobby For Judea, Samaria and Gaza, Chairman of the Lobby for the Struggle Against Corruption in the Public Sector, and member of the Knesset's Christian Allies Caucus

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces ongoing pressure from President Obama to negotiate with the Palestinian Arabs to establish a Palestinian state. But Prime Minister Netanyahu was strengthened by the

warm welcome he received from Congress, which showed its strong support for him and for Israel. If the Palestinian Arabs take unilateral steps to declare a Palestinian state in violation of their obligations under Oslo, then Israel will have to take unilateral steps, too. MK Eldad stressed the need to present an alternative plan for a two-state solution to members of Congress and others. There is no need to create another Palestinian Arab state. One already exists: Jordan.

July 18, 2011

Special Guest: Anne Bayefsky, a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute and director of the Touro Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust.

Professor Bayefsky discussed the United Nations and Israel, and in particular, the upcoming United Nations' Durban Conference on Human Rights, known as “Durban III”, which will be held in Manhattan in September. The purpose of the conference is to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the so-called “anti-racism” conference held in Durban, South Africa in 2001 (known as “Durban I”), which actually turned out to be a racist and anti-Semitic event targeting and demonizing the Jewish State of Israel. Durban III will be no different. Even though the Obama administration decided recently to pull out of Durban III, the conference will have many supporters among the members of the United Nations. Professor Bayefsky advocated mounting a campaign to discredit the event; she is organizing a major counter-conference also to take place in September in Manhattan.



Government Relations Department Responds To Obama's Changed Foreign Policy Regarding the "Peace Process"

In the wake of President Obama's May 19th State Department speech, ZOA's Government Relations Department has been very busy working with Members of Congress from both parties on legislation and related activity.

In his State Department speech, President Obama fundamentally changed U.S. foreign policy regarding the so-called "peace process" by adopting the Palestinians' opening gambit on borders. Congressional reaction to the President's speech has been mostly very supportive of Israel, with the leadership of both parties rejecting the President's call for Israel to return to the indefensible 1949 armistice lines as a precondition for resuming negotiations. Both the House and the Senate have passed resolutions opposing the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, and urging a review of aid to the Palestinian Authority (PA) if they continue on this course.

To add insult to injury, the President's speech came immediately after Hamas and Fatah signed an agreement to join together in a united front against Israel and against American diplomacy in the region. Incredibly, the President's speech referred to this development as raising "profound and legitimate questions for Israel" – but said nothing about the profound and legitimate questions this poses for U.S. policy.

The fact is that that under U.S. law, no U.S. financial assistance is permitted to go to a power-sharing PA government that includes Hamas unless and until the President has certified that such a government, including all ministers, has accepted two fundamental principles included in Section 620K of the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006 (PATA), Public Law 109-446: (1) recognition of the Jewish State of Israel's right to exist, and (2) acceptance of and adherence to all previous Israeli-Palestinian Arab agreements. Similarly, the Quartet, comprised of the United States, the European Union, the United Nations and Russia, has established the minimum conditions for Hamas. The "Islamic Resistance" must accept Israel's right to exist, commit itself to all previous Israeli-Palestinian Arab agreements, and renounce terrorism.

As of this writing, President Obama has not yet acknowledged this statutory impediment to his continued funding of the PA. Nor, for that matter, has he yet signaled to the Palestinian Arab leadership that Hamas's involvement with the PA is a problem. This also has not stopped his attempts to pressure Israel into accepting his pre-conditions.

Members of both political parties have made it very clear that they do not agree with the President's approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict. When Prime Minister Netanyahu appeared before a joint session of Congress to present Israel's case, he was interrupted many times by thunderous applause and ovations.

Much of what PM Netanyahu told the Members of Congress was familiar to the lawmakers as a result of ZOA's



Josh London
Co-Director,
Government Relations
Department



Dan Pollak
Co-Director,
Government Relations
Department

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

lobbying activities on Capitol Hill. In particular, the direct quotes from the Hamas charter cited by the Prime Minister were carried to every congressional office that ZOA activists visited just two weeks earlier, during the annual ZOA Mission to Washington, D.C. In addition, the ZOA activists advocated reducing aid to the PA, on the dangers of a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian Arab state, and in favor of the proposed law to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem.

Many Members of Congress from both parties addressed the ZOA delegation at our Mission. The meeting room in the Senate Office building was filled to capacity as speaker after speaker praised the ZOA and our ongoing work in influencing the debate on Middle East issues.

In the wake of the Hamas-Fatah reconcilia-

tion agreement, Members of Congress from both parties authored letters to the President asking that he pressure the PA to immediately repudiate the agreement. Resolutions were introduced to make clear how seriously Congress viewed this “unity deal” between supposed moderates and admitted terrorists. A resolution was also introduced to formally recognize the April 2004 letters from President Bush to Prime Minister Sharon regarding the permanence of Israeli neighborhoods beyond the 1949 armistice lines.

In addition, a resolution was introduced – as advocated by former UN Ambassador John Bolton – to withhold funding from the UN should it recognize a unilaterally declared Palestinian Arab state. Pro-Israel Members of the House are planning their reaction if the Palestinian Arabs move

forward with their planned unilateral declaration of statehood, which would constitute a material breach of the Oslo Accords and all subsequent agreements with Israel.

The looming threat of Iran’s acquisition of a nuclear offensive capacity continues unabated, as U.S. sanctions on Iran continue to be largely unenforced by the Obama administration. This is yet another instance where President Obama is following in well-trodden bipartisan footsteps, as aggressive enforcement of sanctions on Iran has never been given high priority by previous Republican or Democratic administrations. Congress is nonetheless working on newer sanctions, and on tightening existing loopholes. The ZOA continues to advocate robust enforcement of existing sanctions and continues to urge lawmak-

ers to pursue all necessary steps to stop Iran.

The Co-Directors of Government Relations have also been active in presenting the ZOA’s positions at think-tank policy conferences and to the media and public. They have been interviewed and participated in panel discussions for TV and radio for various networks. One highlight was last May, when co-director Dan Pollak debated Norman Finkelstein, a notorious Israel-hater, on RT (Russian) TV. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=te6PoM4d4Ik>)

At the heart of the ZOA’s Government Relations efforts are the dedication, passionate advocacy and depth of 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, DC.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

continued from page 8

towards its demise. He has called for Palestinians to end negotiations with Israel and for Egypt to shred its peace treaty with Jerusalem. This year, his second-in-command, Rashad Al-Bayoumi, reiterated this again as

being a priority for the Brotherhood in joining a future government. This is the same Brotherhood that seeks to destroy Western societies by incrementally expanding Saudi-style Sharia law throughout the West, including in America. In the last decade, the FBI

uncovered documents from a Muslim Brotherhood leader’s home outside Washington that describe a “grand jihad” aimed at the “elimination and destruction of Western civilization from within” by “sabotage.”

Obama’s words and deeds not only fail to match

his stated commitment to Israel’s security – they negate it.

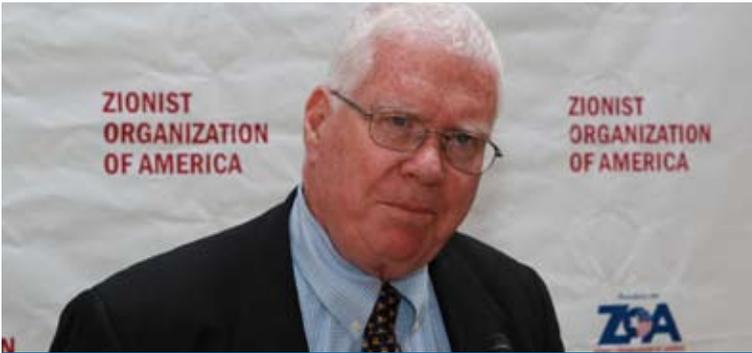
With Zionist greetings,



Morton A. Klein
National President



ZOA WASHINGTON MISSION 2011



Richard Hellman, Director, Christians' Israel Public Action Campaign (CIPAC)



Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) speaks about Israel



ZOA delegates listening to speakers at the luncheon



ZOA delegates in Hart Senate Building including ZOA Graphics and IT Director Josh Teplow and ZOA Center for Law and Justice Director Susan Tuchman (center)



ZOA Government Relations Co-Director Josh London, Board Member Rubin Margules greet former Cong. Anthony Weiner (D-NY)



ZOA delegates with Cong. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)



ZOA delegates in congressional meeting



ZOA WASHINGTON MISSION 2011



Cong. Dennis Ross (R-FL)



ZOA National President Mort Klein, Cong. Shelley Berkley (D-NV), Board Member Jim Pollack



ZOA Government Relations Co-Director Dan Pollak, and Cong. Doug Lamborn (R-CO)



Mort Klein and Cong. Steve Rothman (D-NJ)



ZOA Campus Managing Director, Josh Nason addresses delegates



Cong. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)



ZOA volunteers registering delegates



ZOA delegate asks question after remarks by Senators and Congress members



ZOA WASHINGTON MISSION 2011



ZOA delegates reviewing lobbying materials



ZOA delegates speak to congressional staffer



ZOA Board Member Jim Pollack with Cong. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) Chief Staffer



A staffer for Cong. Allyson Schwartz (D-PA) speaks to ZOA delegates



Cong. Mike Pence (R-IN) talks to Mort Klein



ZOA delegates at congressional meeting with Sen. Lautenberg's (D-NJ) aide



Cong. Joe Walsh (R-FL) speaks during the ZOA luncheon



ZOA delegate Al Pollans, Sen. Mark Pryor (D-AK)



Cong. Joe Walsh (R-FL), ZOA Board members Bob Guzzardi and Jim Pollack



ZOA WASHINGTON MISSION 2011



Poster showing tiny Israel compared to other countries



ZOA Government Relations Co-Directors Josh London & Dan Pollak addressing ZOA delegates



ZOA delegates applaud a Congressional speech



Cong. Shelley Berkley (D-NV)



ZOA Board Member Jim Pollack, and Al Pollans discussing talking points



ZOA Israel Director Jeff Daube (rear), ZOA Government Relations Co-Director Joshua London (center), and Senator John Boozman (R-AK) (right)



ZOA Director of Finance Stan Kessock with a delegate



ZOA National President Morton Klein addresses luncheon



ZOA delegates listening to Congressional addresses at the luncheon



ZOA Fights Anti-Israel Hostilities at Brooklyn College and Rutgers University

A student at Brooklyn College approached ZOA with concerns about the college’s decision to hire Kristofer Petersen-Overton to teach a course on the Middle East. Petersen-Overton had been a research assistant for a viciously anti-Israel organization notorious for its factual distortions about Israel. Petersen-Overton’s own publications and intended syllabus for the course at Brooklyn College confirmed that the course would be driven by his own anti-Israel agenda, rather than by factual accuracy and historical truths.

When Petersen-Overton’s background and writings were exposed, Brooklyn College rescinded his teaching appointment, only to rehire him days later, bowing to political pressure that claimed a violation of Petersen-Overton’s academic freedom. The ZOA wrote to Brooklyn College President Karen L. Gould, criticizing the decision to reinstate Petersen-Overton. We also worked with ZOA student activists to distribute fliers with information about Petersen-Overton’s biases and to obtain signatures on a petition opposing his reinstatement. ZOA provided support to student activists and community members who stood up for academic integrity, refusing to permit principles of academic freedom to be subverted in support of a lecturer using the classroom as a platform for vicious anti-

Israel falsehoods.

Jewish students at Rutgers also turned to the ZOA for help after an anti-Israel student group on campus called BAKA brought an event to campus called “Never Again for Anyone.” This event outrageously and offensively compared reasonable and necessary Israeli security measures against Palestinian Arab terrorism to the systematic genocidal policies and practices of the Nazis against the Jews. When pro-Israel students heard about this event, they sent out an action alert and organized a peaceful protest at the event, which a huge crowd of Jews and Israel supporters attended. When they saw this crowd, the event’s organizers responded by suddenly imposing a mandatory admission fee at the event, which had been advertised as free and open to the public. The

fee, according to students who were present, was selectively enforced: Individuals who were deemed sympathetic to BAKA’s cause were allowed in for free, while individuals who were perceived to be Jewish or pro-Israel were charged, effectively barring them from the event. ZOA wrote to the President of Rutgers, Richard L. McCormick, complaining about the university’s inaction in the face of this discrimination, as well as about other incidents on campus that have created a hostile environment for Jewish students.

ZOA Campus Social Media

The ZOA Campus Department expanded its social media outreach this past semester. We now have a vibrant Twitter account (@ZOA_Campus)



Josh Nason
Managing Director,
ZOA Campus
Programs



David Kadosh
ZOA Campus
Coordinator,
West Coast Region



Sharona Whisler
ZOA Campus
Coordinator,
Southeast Region



Jason Holtzman
ZOA Campus
Coordinator,
East Coast Region



Leo Nayfeld
ZOA Campus
Coordinator,
Midwest Region

BANNER PHOTO CREDIT OF BOOKS: TOM MURPHY, VII

CAMPUS ACTIVISM NETWORK

that is followed by almost 700 people. On Twitter, we provide constant news updates and accounts of ZOA campus events. ZOA's Facebook Page has over 1,400 "Likes," which means that we have over 1,400 fans who are following the ZOA and like what we are doing. Additionally, ZOA's Midwest Campus Coordinator, Jason Holtzman, has been maintaining a blog on The Jerusalem Post entitled Live in America: Campus Talk. Jason contributes articles on a number of topics, including accounts of campus events, the ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel, and current and timely issues that the ZOA Campus Department is raising on campus to educate students and build effective future pro-Israel advocates.

Jump for Israel

Jump for Israel is the ZOA Campus Department's premier philanthropic event of the spring semester. Student participants go skydiving in order to secure sponsors and raise funds for needed supplies for frontline units of the Israel Defense Forces. Last April, ZOA held its most successful Jump for Israel events ever, with jumps taking place in New York, Washington, D.C., Florida,

Illinois and Arizona. We set records for the most participants, the most regions, and the most money raised, totaling over \$9,000. The New York Jump was especially successful, raising over \$7,000. ZOA works with an Israeli organization, Yashar L'chayal, and uses the funds raised to purchase necessary items for IDF units, including gloves, blankets, boots and Camel-Bak hydration packs.

ZOA Campus Events

The ZOA co-sponsored events on several campuses this year with a number of exciting speakers including IDF Colonel (Ret.) Bentzion Gruber, Sderot Media Center Director Noam Bedein, Wall Street Journal columnist Brett Stephens, Jerusalem Post columnist Gil Hoffman, and many more.

In the Midwest, the ZOA co-sponsored a speaking tour with activist Zion Uness, an Ethiopian-Israeli Hasbara Fellow. Mr. Uness told his personal story of growing up in Ethiopia and, at age seven, taking part in 1984's historic Operation Moses, when approximately 8,000 Jews were rescued from Ethiopia and brought to Israel. He also spoke about the justice of Zionism. The ZOA also helped facilitate a year-long extracurricular class at Kent State Univer-



Skydiving past clouds is even more exhilarating if you are doing it for a great cause like the ZOA and Israel.

sity with the fraternity AEPi and Hillel. Students engaged in conversations and interactive presentations about various topics involving Israel. The ZOA's Midwest Campus Coordinator, Jason Holtzman, spoke on the issue of keeping a united Jerusalem. By the end of the year, this group of 15 students became more informed and effective advocates for Israel on their campus.

Over the past year, ZOA Campus Coordinator Dave Kadosh presented the popular "Gaza: 5 Years After" Campaign on a number of campuses in the New York area. The presentation focuses on the impact of Israel's 2005 withdrawal from the Gaza Strip. Approximately 9,000 Jews living in Gaza were forcibly removed from their homes and communities. The withdrawal increased the security threat facing the communities of southern Israel who

were in easy range of rocket and missile fire from Hamas in Gaza. Dave delivered a speech at Hofstra University on the importance of being an Israel advocate, and a speech at Queens College analyzing the revolutions in the Arab world and their implications for the State of Israel. Dave also participated in a panel discussion at Northeastern University in Boston on the best strategies for Israel advocacy.

ZOA was instrumental in bringing Ron Klein, a former U.S. Congressman from south Florida, to Florida International University (FIU), where he spoke about democracy and the State of Israel, and the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship. This event was part of FIU's Shalom Israel Peace Week. ZOA Campus Coordinator Sharona Whisler also spoke on several south Florida campuses this past semester, and helped or-

CAMPUS ACTIVISM NETWORK

ganize a community-wide gathering to commemorate the Shloshim for the Fogel family after they were brutally murdered by Palestinian Arab terrorists in Itamar.

ZOA Campus staff also spoke at a number of other venues including a Panim el Panim student conference on the Middle East, Hillel's Collegiate Leadership Internship Program, Moishe House, and more.

ZOA Delegation at the Salute to Israel Parade

The ZOA had a record turnout of over 90 supporters at the 2011 *Celebrate Israel* Parade in Manhattan, including more than 60 students and young professionals. This year's theme was "Without Jerusalem the Land of Israel is a Body Without a Soul," based on a quote by Zionist leader Elhanan Lewinsky. As we do each year at the parade, the ZOA delegation stressed the importance of the Jewish connection to the land of Israel and to the eternal, undivided capital of the Jewish people, Jerusalem.

ZOA Summer Internship Program

This past summer, seven committed student activists interned at the ZOA, work-

ing out of the national office in New York. The interns were students from New York University, Queens College, Binghamton University and Brooklyn College. They focused primarily on creating a campaign to highlight the problem of Palestinian Arab incitement, which included creating a YouTube video, a power point presentation, and an informative pamphlet to be distributed on campuses nationwide. In addition, the ZOA interns worked on developing strategies for rallying pro-Israel students on campus to counter the Palestinian Arabs' push for statehood at the United Nations in September. They also planned a student lobbying mission to Capitol Hill, and wrote articles for the next issue of *The College Zionist*, ZOA's campus magazine for college students.

New Issue of The College Zionist

This past spring, the ZOA Campus Department published a new issue of *The College Zionist*, featuring articles for students written by ZOA student activists. The magazine was distributed on campuses across the country. The cover story of the spring 2011 issue was "Gaza: Five Years Later, A Unilateral Disaster." The

magazine also included "The Truth About J Street," and the winning essay from the contest that the ZOA sponsored last fall, on the topic, "Jews Have a Right to Live in Judea and Samaria." The magazine contained a special message to students from ZOA National President Morton Klein, as well as articles by students from New York University, Brandeis University, University of Maryland, and the University of Texas.

ZOA Young Professional Activities

The ZOA Young Professional Division (ZOA YPs) worked with Birthright Israel Next to put together the Take Back Zionism launch party—the first event of its kind—which opened the door for Birthright alumni to familiarize themselves with Zionist organizations that have

programming, to build on alumni's initial exposure to the land of Israel. Over 400 people attended.

The ZOA YPs also co-sponsored the annual Dor Chadash Yom Haatzmaut celebration in Manhattan, honoring Israel's Independence Day. The celebration was preceded by a meaningful ceremony in memory of Israel's fallen for Yom HaZikaron, featuring prayers and speeches by the families of fallen soldiers and victims of Arab terrorism.

Over the past six months, the ZOA YPs have continued to grow and to become increasingly visible, thanks to cooperative efforts with other organizations. The goal of the ZOA YPs is to ensure that the ZOA's message is conveyed to future generations of Zionist leaders who will continue to advocate effectively for Israel and a strong U.S.-Israel relationship.



Jump for Israel participants courageously skydiving to raise funds for IDF supplies, raising over \$9,000



Irwin Hochberg

Irwin Hochberg,

Vice-Chairman of the Board of the ZOA and a recipient of the ZOA's Justice Louis D. Brandeis Award, is someone who has pursued his passion and convictions – after he had already pursued a highly successful career as an accountant – working for the strength and welfare of Israel. In this cause, Irwin has served in numerous top leadership positions – National Campaign Chairman of State of Israel Bonds; Chairman of the Board of the UJA-Jewish Federation of New York; Chairman of the International Division of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL); Member of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel; Executive Committee Member of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC); and Founding Trustee of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. He remains active today in leadership positions in several of these organizations as well as in many others.



Irwin Hochberg

In his very moving memoir, *Zionist and Patriot*, Irwin paints a beautiful picture of the intensely Jewish atmosphere of 1930's and 1940's Boro Park, recreating for the reader the strong Jewish matrix that produced his deep identification with Israel and Jewish causes, as well his father's passionate commitment to Jewish philanthropy. Studies at the City College of New York, which he describes as being a "secular yeshiva" filled with Jewish students and which produced nine Nobel laureates, also heightened the intensity of Irwin's immersion in the Jewish world.

Determining early in life that accounting would provide a fulfilling career, Irwin joined Joseph J. Bloom and Company in 1950. By 1955, at the age of 26, he was a partner with Bloom in what would become Bloom, Hochberg & Co., offering a range of services beyond financial statements and tax returns that helped to raise it into a prestigious, boutique accounting firm.

Established in business and enjoying a blessed marriage with his first wife, Rita, and family, Irwin Hochberg could have declared himself a content and successful man and left things at that. He didn't, because his passionate concern for the welfare of Israel led him steadily into a string of commitments to pro-Israel projects and organizations. Rita passed away in 2004. Since Irwin remarried, his wife

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Joan has likewise stood at his side and shared his commitment and passion.

In 1979, on a trip to Israel, Irwin was involved with the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) and its Project Renewal, dedicated to revitalizing and transforming the most poverty-stricken regions of Israel. Seeing the grinding want and struggle of the lower rungs of Israeli society, Irwin felt “overwhelmed by the concept” and committed himself to the Project, becoming chairman of its New York chapter. Project Renewal lifted Tel Aviv’s Schunat Hatikva from the lowest socio-economic depth. “We did a very successful job of rehabilitating that neighborhood,” Irwin recalls with pride.

By this time, Irwin had decided to change focus, moving away from his successful accounting practice, which could continue to run without his own full-time input, towards working for Israel as a lay person. “The objective,” says Irwin, “was to phase out accounting – I couldn’t do it overnight, I needed the continuity of income, time to build up resources and so on – but I wanted to find myself eventually working for Israel. So I did have to reorganize my life. I discussed it with my business partner, Joe Bloom. He supported it and over time, I phased into a new sort of life.”

“My concern is that Islamists are willing to work below the radar, slowly, gradually, in their fight against us. But there are some dedicated people who will not rest and that includes the ZOA. With ZOA, we have a chance.”

Irwin worked increasingly in fund-raising for Israel, through the UJA, and also started assuming new commitments: leadership positions within UJA and Israel Bonds, and service on the Board of the Jewish Agency for Israel, among other things. In time, Irwin came to be involved with ZOA. He says, “ZOA was one of these organizations that I wanted to be involved with, because its goals and objectives coincide with mine. My work with ZOA began when I developed a relationship with Mort. I helped resurrect the organization. ZOA is exceptional. Mort is willing to pursue an issue when others are not. I respected the fact that he was prepared to stand up when others were not. He is unique. He is not afraid to establish a core position.

“Sometimes the positions ZOA takes up are controversial. Other Jewish organizations will often avoid taking positions, because they want to maintain access and contact, an ‘open door’ where they think such contacts are needed to support the activities of their organization. They fear they will suffer if they take a firm stand. So, many in the American Jewish leadership are not prepared to take important stands. When I was concerned about an issue that arose, I would speak to Mort and other Jewish leaders in order to do something about it. With the others, I couldn’t get anything done. But if Mort agreed, he could be relied upon to act. Or to give another type of example, I have spoken to many Jewish leaders about a hostile piece by this or that well-known columnist. If I give it to Mort, he will write a serious, substantive piece or a letter of criticism. He has the courage of his convictions. But if I raise it with other leaders of major Jewish organizations, they generally will not go public, even if they privately agree that the piece was terrible.

“In time I joined the ZOA Board. Mort is very inclusive in the way he deals with members of the Board. Professionally, too, I think he has done a great job in adding value in terms of the caliber of people he has attracted and taken into the organization.”

Irwin remains deeply concerned about issues that affect Israel and the United States, especially about the things that are not widely discussed or even known, thanks to a blanket of political correctness: Muslim militias secretly training here in the U.S., suspect immigrants from Muslim societies that continue to enter the country, stealth Islamists and the like. But while seeing the situation as serious, he doesn’t give way to pessimism. “My concern is that Islamists are willing to work below the radar, slowly, gradually, in their fight against us. But there are some dedicated people who will not rest and that includes the ZOA. With ZOA, we have a chance. ZOA is one organization that will be able to do it.”

Indeed, Irwin has a knack for focusing on the invigorating, positive aspects of challenge and adversity. In his memoir, he notes that he was born on Tisha B’Av, the ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av when Jews commemorate the destruction of the first and second Temples. Yet Irwin recalls the Talmud’s teaching that it is on this most tragic day in Jewish history, that the messiah will be born. He also recounts the story of Napoleon Bonaparte who, upon coming across the wailing and chants of a Tisha B’Av service and discovering it was a congregation of Jews mourning the loss of their Temples and homeland in antiquity, is reputed to have said that a people that could still mourn their loss after nearly two thousand years had a real hope of retrieving both.

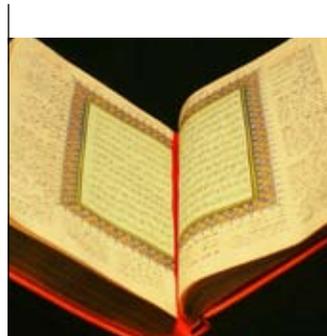


Shocker: Overwhelming 73% of Palestinians Support Islamic Teaching to Murder Jews

PA State Would Be New Terrorist State

July 18, 2011 A new poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Public Opinion has found that an overwhelming 73% of Palestinian Arabs agree with the hadith [Islamic tradition ascribed to Muhammad], quoted by the terrorist group Hamas in its charter, about the need to conduct a genocide of Jews. The hadith in question states, “The Day of Judgment will not come about until Muslims fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Muslims, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him.” The poll also contained the following findings:

- 80% agree with the statement in the Hamas Charter calling for the creation of Arab and Islamic battalions to fight the Jews.
- 61% reject the idea of a peaceful Palestinian state living alongside Israel as the solution to the Arab/Israeli war, as against 34% who accept it.
- 66% said that the Palestinians’ real goal should be to first set up a Palestinian state alongside Israel and then move towards creating a single Palestinian-controlled state.
- 72% support denying Jewish history and connection to the land of Israel.
- An overwhelming 92% insist on Jerusalem being only the Palestinian capital, as against a mere 1% who believe it should be the Israeli capital. Only 3% of Palestinians believe that Jerusalem should be the capital of both Israel and a Palestinian state, and 4% believe it should be a neutral international city.



Hadith: “O Muslims, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him.”

- 62% support a policy of kidnapping Israeli soldiers and holding them hostage.
- 53% favor teaching songs about hating Jews in Palestinian schools.
- 64% support seeking a unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood at the UN. (Gil Hoffman, “6 in 10 Palestinians Reject 2-State Solution, Survey Finds,” *Jerusalem Post*, July 15, 2011).

Senior Fatah Official: “No One In [Abbas’] Fatah & Hamas Movements Recognizes Israel”

May 12, 2011 In the wake of the Fatah/Hamas unity government agreement, Abdullah Abdullah, a senior Palestinian legislator and member of Mahmoud Abbas’ Fatah party, which rules the Palestinian Authority (PA), said this week that “No one in Fatah and Hamas movements recognizes Israel” (“Senior Palestinian MP: Fatah, Hamas Share Stance on Not Recognizing Israel,” *Fars News Agency*, May 9, 2011).

We Mourn Elizabeth Taylor, ZOA Awardee –

ZOA President Max Nussbaum converted Taylor to Judaism

March 23, 2011 The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) mourns the passing of legendary American actress and ardent Zionist, Elizabeth Taylor, at age 79. Ms. Taylor, who enjoyed a long and hugely successful career in Hollywood, was converted to Judaism in 1959 by Rabbi Max Nussbaum, who served as National President of the ZOA from 1964 to 1966. Ms. Taylor was a recipient of the ZOA’s Distinguished Louis D. Brandeis Award.

Among Elizabeth Taylor’s outstanding work on behalf of Israel and Jewish causes was her participating in raising \$840,000 for Israel in a 1967 London gala and personally purchasing \$100,000 in Israel Bonds in 1959. The same year, she cancelled a visit to Moscow after the Soviet Union

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lashed out at Israel after the June 1967 Six Day War. In 1975, she was one of 60 prominent women to sign a statement to then-U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, condemning the U.N. General Assembly's infamous Zionism-is-Racism resolution. Taylor offered herself as a hostage when 104 hostages aboard an Air France airbus were hijacked by PLO terrorists and held at Uganda's Entebbe Airport, from which they were rescued in a spectacular Israeli commando mission on July 4, 1976, America's 200th birthday. Taylor frequently visited Israel and met with its leadership, including Prime Minister Menachem Begin in 1983. In 1987, she signed a petition seeking the release from Soviet incarceration of leading refusenik Ida Nudel.



Elizabeth Taylor:
Ardent Zionist

Elizabeth Taylor's pro-Israel activism led to the banning of her films in several Arab countries. After purchasing \$100,000 in Israel Bonds in 1959, the United Arab Republic (now Egypt) banned all her movies. Gen. Essam Elmasri, head of the Cairo regional bureau of the Israel Boycott Office, said that Miss Taylor would not be allowed to come to Egypt because she has adopted the Jewish faith and "supports Israeli causes." Her movie, Cleopatra, was not permitted to be filmed in Egypt, but in 1964, Egypt dropped her from its blacklist when it decided that Cleopatra, which mentions Egypt 122 times, would provide good publicity for Egypt.

New Poll: 78% of Likud Members Oppose Creation Of Palestinian Arab State

April 12, 2011 Despite Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech at Bar Ilan University in favor of a conditional Palestinian Arab state in parts of Judea and Samaria, the rank and file members of his own Likud party – a full 78% – do not support renewed diplomatic efforts towards

Palestinian Arab statehood.

The Ma'agar Mohot poll of Likud members also found:

- Two-thirds of respondents said they would not support any government ministers who backed efforts to transfer additional Israeli land to the Palestinian Arabs.
- 41% of respondents said that if Prime Minister Netanyahu followed up on his Bar-Ilan speech by announcing additional land transfers to the Palestinian Authority (PA) or by attempting to create a Palestinian Arab state with temporary borders, they would actively consider voting for the Israel Beiteinu party, instead of Likud, in the next election.

ZOA Board Member Rubin Margules Leads 11th Purim Mishloach Manot Campaign For Israeli Soldiers

April 5, 2011 March 15 was the kickoff for the Zionist Organization of America's Purim IDF Project 2011, during which 4,000 packages were distributed among IDF soldiers at their bases throughout Israel. Rubin Margules, President of the ZOA's Brooklyn Region and a member of ZOA's National Board, led the five-day mission – including one day at the Gaza border under rocket fire – for this, his eleventh, multifaceted Purim campaign in Israel.

In a major effort coordinated by the ZOA's Israel Office, tons of foodstuffs and supplies were purchased from a variety of vendors, packed in a series of community volunteer gatherings, and then distributed with handwritten letters gathered from abroad to thousands of appreciative soldiers. In addition, with the help of the Ariel Development Fund and Sar El, ZOA's Israel Office organized a pre-Purim concert for 500 soldiers that was to feature the popular Harel Skaat at the brand new Ariel Performing Arts Center. The cultural center has been a target of anti-Israel boycotters because of its location in Samaria, so the city of Ariel was extremely grateful for ZOA's show of solidarity. At the last minute, however, the concert had to be canceled due to the Fogel family massacre in Itamar, after which the soldiers were ordered to stay in their bases on high alert.

Many American yeshivot and congregations participated in Purim IDF Project 2011, whether by helping to raise funds

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or enlisting students to write personal letters to the soldiers. "It is unbelievable," said Margules, "seeing the enthusiasm these soldiers display as they read these notes and letters written by students and contributors thanking them for defending our biblical homeland. We come to thank them and they can't stop thanking us!"

ZOA Praises Senators Menendez, Casey, Boozman & 41 Other Senators For Urging Obama to Stop Aid for Hamas/PA Unity Govt.

June 21, 2011 The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) has strongly praised Senators Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Robert P. Casey (D-PA) for the Senate Democratic caucus-initiated letter to the leader of the Democratic Party, President Barack Obama, signed by 27 other U.S. Democratic senators, urging the President to suspend U.S. aid to Mahmoud Abbas' Palestinian Authority (PA) unless Hamas, which has now joined the Fatah-controlled PA in a unity government, recognizes Israel, renounces terrorism and fulfills the signed, written agreements between Israel and the PA. The PA now receives between \$550-980 million per year from the U.S. taxpayer.

Additionally, other senior Members of Congress have issued warnings that the United States will risk charges of financing terrorist operatives if U.S. aid to the PA is not cut. The House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairwoman, Cong. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) has called attention to a 2006 law, P.L. No. 109-446, "Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act," that conditions U.S. aid on a "requirement that Palestinian recipients must renounce violence and acknowledge Israel's right to exist," conditions which Hamas openly repudiates. Rep. Ros-Lehtinen said, "No taxpayer funds should go, they must not go, to the new Palestinian unity government." Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) has similarly stated that the Fatah-Hamas unity government would put U.S. aid to the PA at risk. Also, Cong. Alcee Hastings (D-FL) last week introduced a nonbinding resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives that urged cutting off assistance to a Fatah/Hamas-run PA. On June 20, numerous other Members of the House and Senate, while addressing a ZOA-sponsored luncheon held on Capitol Hill in the Hart Senate Office Building, declared their opposition

to funding the PA, including Cong. Allen West (R-FL) and Joe Walsh (D-FL).

The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) also strongly praised Senators John Boozman (R-AR) and Jerry Moran (R-KS) for the Senate Republican caucus letter to President Barack Obama, signed by 16 Republican senators, urging the President to suspend U.S. aid to the PA. ZOA assisted Senators Boozman and Moran in initiating the letter and asking Senators to sign it.

Facebook Closes Intifada Page Calling For Murder of Jews, Following Protests from ZOA

March 30, 2011 The social networking site, Facebook, has closed the page 'Third Intifada,' following protests from the Israeli Government, the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), and other groups. The ZOA and others protested to Mark Zuckerberg, CEO and founder of Facebook, regarding Facebook maintaining a page calling for a third intifada – a terrorist wave, intending to murder Israeli Jews, both civilians and military – to commence on May 15, 2011, the 63rd anniversary of Israel's independence.

The Facebook page in question, which had, as of late last week, over 230,000 friends and over 282,000 people who had recorded "liking" it, was replete with photographs, video-clips and postings calling for violence and murder of Israeli Jews and for "liberating" Jerusalem and "Palestine" through war and acts of terror. The site was used by anti-Semitic groups that deny Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state planning a wide-ranging campaign against Israel. Among other things, the site included calls for coordinated attacks by Palestinians and other Arabs, including rocket attacks upon Israeli cities by the Lebanese, Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorist group.

The ZOA called for Facebook to follow up this correct decision by closing down a number of new sites that replaced the deleted "Third Intifada" page, arguing that, if Facebook fails to do so, not only will the racist and violent people behind the "Third Intifada" page have successfully continued to plan and recruit for their terrorist war on Facebook, but they will also have shown that Facebook lacks the will to enforce responsible standards on the content it permits.



Opposing Violence, Desecrations, and Illegal Construction on the Mt. of Olives is Key to Advocating Jerusalem Unity

Jerusalem is becoming a major focal point around which Israel's adversaries are concentrating resources. The often violent tactics used by Israel's opponents are designed to intimidate and force Israel to withdraw its presence, thereby lending credibility to their claim that Jewish interest in retaining Jerusalem is minimal. ZOA Israel continues to accompany visiting leaders on trips to eastern Jerusalem in coordination with Keep Jerusalem, the Jerusalem Reclamation Project, and the Israel Land Fund, to raise awareness about the challenges to Israeli sovereignty, including from groups dedicated to Jerusalem's division. But our deepest involvement has been with the fight to secure a vibrant Jewish presence in one of Jerusalem's major battlegrounds, the Mt. of Olives.

Joining forces with the U.S.-based International Committee for the Preservation of Har Hazeitim, ZOA Israel brought a new political angle to the campaign to publicize and oppose the desecrations of Jewish graves, stonings of mourners and visitors, fire-bombings of cars, and dumping of garbage over the course of many years. We engaged the U.S. Jerusalem Consulate in meetings to encourage officials to condemn the violence and prevail upon the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the local Waqf to do the same—in Arabic! We also initiated

an effort to have the attacks included in the State Department's annual International Religious Freedom report.

Recently, we accompanied Israeli Minister of Public Diplomacy and Diaspora Affairs Yuli Edelstein, Presidents Conference Executive Vice Chairman Malcolm Hoenlein, and National Council of Young Israel President Shlomo Mostofsky to the cemetery in a series of briefings.

After bringing former presidential candidate and Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee to the Mt. of Olives, we arranged a press conference at which we presented him with a letter requesting his assistance and emphasizing the number of American citizens impacted by this disgrace. Huckabee assured us he would do whatever possible to raise consciousness about the issue among fellow governors. His traveling companion, former U.S. Rep. Bob McEwen [R-OH], also promised to follow up with colleagues in Congress.

We also began collecting testimonies from affected U.S. citizens. Harrowing accounts of violent attacks already have been submitted by ZOA's National Advisory Council Chairman Dr. Alan Mazurek and ZOA Campus Coordinator Jason Holtzman. Members of Knesset, State Department/Jerusalem Consulate officials, and Members of Congress have been moved by the narratives and accompanying photos.

Last spring, ZOA Israel brought its case to the Knesset where we testified at an Interior Committee hearing about our attempts to secure the appropriate condemnations. We asked leadership to establish a central body to be responsive to complaints and responsible for redress. The government seems to be taking the matter more seriously. Sixty-two of the budgeted 150 security cameras finally have been installed—though many of them were later destroyed by Arabs rioting on Nakba Day. And National Security Adviser Maj. Gen. Ya'akov Amidror was recently appointed by PM Ne-



Jeff Daube
Director, ZOA Israel

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tanyahu to oversee the situation on the Mt. of Olives.

Lately, there has been an uptick in violence and in the number of desecrated graves, especially those of American citizens. This has prompted the injured parties to consider filing lawsuits in American and Israeli courts. The Israel Office also has become involved in efforts to stop recent construction activity on an illegal mosque no more than five meters from the gravesite of former PM Menachem Begin, despite a stop-work order. This affront is only the latest in a systematic effort to limit Jewish presence by illegal construction.

If the intolerable and dangerous status quo is not addressed soon, it will contribute to the de facto division of Israel's beloved capital—unfortunately already underway in several eastern Jerusalem locations.

ZOA Israel is a respected resource for Israeli government leadership

Israel's Knesset and Government Ministries have become regular beats for ZOA Israel as we attempt to close the communications gap between Israeli leadership and its friends in the U.S. In our regular meetings with MKs, we share with them the pro-Israel initiatives originating in Congress, such as the recent ZOA-assisted GOP Senatorial letter calling for a cut-off of funds to the PA. We also identify Knesset initiatives that are consonant with ZOA objectives and look for opportunities to help them succeed.

The ZOA has support-

ed the bolder measures taken by Knesset legislators lately, including:

- **Desecration of Cemeteries Bill:** The Israel Office is working to support MK Yoel Hasson's [Kadima] proposed legislation calling for a three-year minimum sentence after one is convicted of desecrating graves or harassing cemetery visitors. We are urging that the bill include punitive measures for under-age perpetrators, or at least for their parents.
- **Judea/Samaria Annexation Initiative:** ZOA Israel is working with MK Danny Danon [Likud] and other MKs on legislation to establish Israeli sovereignty over Area C, which includes the Jewish communities of Judea and Samaria. The annexation would go into effect should the PA actually follow through on the threat to declare a state unilaterally via the U.N. We drafted a letter for Danon's office to submit to Congress requesting support for this move, on the basis that the PA's unilateral effort would violate the Oslo Accords.
- **Jerusalem Negotiations/Knesset Vote Bill:** ZOA Israel has been talking up MK Miri Regev's [Likud] bill, which calls for a Knesset vote of ap-

proval before negotiations may be conducted on a change in Jerusalem's legal status.

- **Prisoners Bill:** ZOA Israel is promoting Regev's other bill to curtail extravagant privileges, such as post-graduate degree programs, offered to convicted Hamas terrorists, many of whom are murderers. This has come up recently in connection with the denial of basic rights to Gilad Shalit, held captive for five years without even being allowed a visit by the International Red Cross.

Insider perspective on behalf of Members of Knesset, Israeli activists, and the American Israeli community

President Obama continues to pursue his aggressive policy of selective pressure on Israel, further diminishing his popularity among Israelis (as of this writing, only 12% of Israeli Jews consider him pro-Israel) and intensifying



Insidious Arab desecrations throughout the Mount of Olives cemetery, the oldest burial site in Israel

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Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee and ZOA Israel Director Jeff Daube on the Mount of Olives

their concern about the U.S.-Israel relationship. In response, the Israel Office has been stepping up its role as liaison and facilitator between the leadership of both countries, including two trips to Washington, D.C. last spring in which we brought the Israeli insider perspective to Senate and House members and staffers, and to State Department officials.

On our return to Israel, we reported to various MKs and ministers on the general Washington mood, the reactions to ZOA's core issues, and a number of additional matters we had raised in connection with:

- The steps needed to assert Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem, such as moving the American embassy without presidential waiver, and unambiguously recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's sovereign indivisible

capital on official U.S. documents.

- The Mt. of Olives violence and desecrations and our efforts to bring these to a halt and pursue condemnation from the State Department, its Jerusalem consulate, and the PA. Rep. Engel [D-NY] offered to write a letter to that effect to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. Other members said they would sign such a letter or write their own.
- Clarification regarding appropriations decisions in Judea and Samaria. In a State Department meeting, we pointed to the apparent discriminatory policy by USAID against Jewish residents, a number of whom also are U.S. citizens. Both at State and in our congressional meetings, we also introduced an analysis by

journalist Arlene Kushner, proposing reconsideration of funding for the Dayton Forces, seven U.S. trained and well-armed PA battalions already deployed in areas of Judea and Samaria that General Dayton himself fears could soon turn their weapons against Israel.

Our reports described our 27 meetings on the Hill, including discussions and information sharing with Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Ileana Ros-Lehtinen [R-FL], Eliot Engel [D-NY], Frank Wolf [R-VI], Brad Sherman [D-CA], Shelley Berkley [D-NV] and John Carter [R-TX]—all of whom committed to addressing the concerns of Israeli leadership that we brought to their attention. During our second visit to D.C., Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle attending an Israel Allies Caucus breakfast with us on Jerusalem Day were extremely critical of the PA, and stressed their support for moving the embassy to Jerusalem.

Additional Highlights

Shomron communities: The Israel Office continues to call attention to

the legitimacy and strategic necessity of the demonized Jewish communities of Judea and Samaria. At the behest of ZOA National Board Member Dr. Jonathan Gold, ZOA Israel requested that MKs look into the lack of government-supplied infrastructure and services in Samaria's Chavat Gilad, a community built on privately owned Jewish land and named for the owner's son who was killed by terrorists in 2001. A number of concerned MKs told us the situation likely will improve with the authorization for such projects recently having been moved from the Defense Minister to the Prime Minister's office. The Israel Office's twinning initiative between ZOA's Greater Philadelphia District and two schools in Ariel, capital of Samaria, continues under the capable leadership of both communities.

Tel Shiloh: Former chief of staff for PM Netanyahu, Yechiel Leiter, asked ZOA Israel to assist in a new and exciting University of Haifa archeological project at Tel Shiloh, which was just approved by the Antiquities Authority. This is the site where the mishkan, the center for ritual practice before the Temple in Jerusalem, resided for the first 369 years of Israel's national history. Almost assuredly there will be major finds

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that will reinforce Israel's claims to Jewish sovereignty in its heartland.

Huckabee returns to Israel: Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee has become a close friend of ZOA Israel's office. In addition to playing the key planning and coordinating role for the Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria components of Huckabee's annual Israel visit, including a mutually informative meeting for him and our Israel Office director with VPM Moshe Ya'alon, we brought Huckabee to the Barkan Industrial Park in Samaria so that he could speak to Arab workers who are openly happy to be working alongside "settlers" and receiving much higher salaries and benefits than they would in the PA. In addition, the Israel Office helped organize a gala reception at the Psagot winery which included former Congressman Bob McEwen, actor Jon Voight, and the mission's 175-member Christian entourage. After Huckabee's return to the U.S., we arranged for MK Ayoub Kara to discuss with him the growth of radical Islam in America and Israel's hard won expertise in dealing with those elements.

Monitoring opposition activities: The subversive activities of anti-Israel NGOs operat-

ing in Israel that are funded by various European countries, foundations and even Jewish sources have contributed to the erosion of Israel's safety and international standing, which is why support for legislation requiring greater transparency and oversight is gaining traction in the Knesset and ZOA Israel is helping its promoters. We attended a highly contentious Knesset committee meeting chaired by MK Danny Danon in which even Kadima MK Otniel Schneller railed against J Street as a non-Zionist organization. The Israel Office also helped Deputy Minister Ayoub Kara compose a letter to AIPAC, criticizing Kadima ties to J Street, along with the appearance of Kadima's opposition

leader, Tzipi Livni, at the J Street Washington conference, contrary to official Israeli policy.

Visiting ZOA leadership: ZOA Israel's director joined National President Morton Klein and National Board Vice Chairman Steve Goldberg for a series of June meetings that we arranged with, among others, Ministers Moshe Ya'alon, Uzi Landau and Gilad Erdan; MKs Danny Danon [Likud] and Arie' Eldad [Ichud Leumi]; Ambassador Dore Gold; Senior Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister, Ron Dermer; and Deputy National Security Council Advisor for Foreign Affairs, Col. (res.) Dr. Eran Lerman. We also arranged detailed briefings at various east-

ern Jerusalem locations for Florida Regional Director Joseph Sabag, as well as for National Board member Rubin Margules and his contingent.

Media Connections

- At the Knesset Channel's invitation, Israel Office Director Jeff Daube participated in a panel discussion about Sarah Palin and her solidarity visit to Israel.
- Jeff arranged for ZOA President Mort Klein to meet the Jerusalem Post's new editor in chief, Steve Linde, and to be videotaped in an interview with Mike Evans, guest commentator for Fox News.
- ZOA Israel was featured in two Yeshiva World News articles, two in the Jerusalem Post, and one in Mishpacha Magazine.
- Several of our letters were published in the Jerusalem Post.
- ZOA's Purim IDF mission was featured in a Talkline Communications video, on the Friends of Ariel website, and in Israel National News and Koleinu articles.



Board Member Rubin Margules and ZOA Israel Director Jeff Daube distributing Purim packages



ZOA Pittsburgh District

The ZOA's Pittsburgh District has been very busy. Our spring speakers series included Dr. Steven Albert and Professor Nathan Firestone. Dr. Albert is active with Scholars for Peace in the Middle East at the University of Pittsburgh. He has focused on articles in medical journals – mostly European – that wrongly bash Israel for various problems in the Middle East. Dr. Albert and his colleagues have been successful in getting articles published and retractions issued which vindicate Israel. Professor Firestone, having taught American politics at Duquesne University for almost 40 years, discussed past and present American and Middle East foreign policy.

Working closely with JFilm: The Pittsburgh Jewish Film Forum, the ZOA's Pittsburgh District co-sponsored the Pittsburgh premier of two documentaries. *Ahead of Time* documents the life of Dr. Ruth Gruber, a journalist celebrating her 100th birthday in 2011, who was involved in rescuing Jewish refugees during WWII, covered the birth of modern Israel and its early years, and the Nuremberg trials. *Family in Captivity* tells the heart wrenching story of the family of kidnapped Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, as they struggle to cope with his now over-five-year absence and plead for his freedom.

Each May, the Pittsburgh District holds its Annual Meeting and Scholar-in-Residence. The program is held in memory of the late Kandy Ehrenwerth, an ardent Zionist whose life was cut short by an automobile accident. This year's scholar was ZOA's own Susan Tuchman, director of the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice. Susan spoke about the harassment and intimidation that Jewish students are facing at schools across the country and the ZOA's efforts to combat these problems.

Also at the Annual Meeting, the Pittsburgh District's Scholarship Committee announced this year's recipients. The Patti and Abe Anouchi Scholarship, awarded to the applicant with the winning proposal for a research project while studying in Israel, went to Derek Kwait in the amount of \$750. Named in loving memory of the late Natalie and Ivan Novick, the Novick Israel Scholarship is awarded to the winner of an essay contest whose theme is "The influence of Israel on me as a Jew." Nechama Weinstein wrote the winning essay and was awarded \$500. Ivan Novick was a past president of the Pittsburgh District and a past National President of ZOA.

Receiving \$250 scholarships for travel and study in Israel

were Chasya Cowen, Leah Fuhrman, Harrison Newman, Adir Shimon, Maayan Shimon and Masha Shollar.

The Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh sponsored the City's Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration honoring Israel's 63rd birthday, which focused on the children. The Pittsburgh District engaged the younger children to create Israeli postage stamps. Older children and adults participated in trivia quizzes about Israel. And since no birthday is a celebration without cake, six huge sheet cakes decorated as Israeli flags were prepared and served. Board members Linda Safyan and Marian Salamon served as co-chairpersons of ZOA's booth.

The Pittsburgh District has a busy fall schedule ahead, which will include speakers, Holocaust Education and a major fundraiser.

ZOA Philadelphia District

One week after President Obama's speech at the State Department about the Middle East, Philadelphia ZOA staged a town hall meeting in the area's largest traditional synagogue, the Congregation of Shaare Shamayim. More than 300 in attendance heard from delegates to Sen. Patrick Toomey (R-PA), Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA), and three local congressmen. Other speakers included two Christian Zionist leaders, ZOA officials, talk-radio hosts and three local rabbis. The following day, Philadelphia ZOA staged a pro-Israel rally outside the Israeli Consulate that garnered TV coverage.

We had a record number of activists attend the ZOA's annual advocacy mission to Washington, DC. Fifty people came to represent our district.

Philadelphia ZOA was prominently featured in several articles and letters in the *Jewish Exponent* newspaper. The *Exponent*, *Philadelphia Jewish Voice* and the *American Thinker* published articles and letters by Co-President Len Getz, Vice President Lee Bender and Executive Director Steve Feldman.

Philadelphia ZOA hosted



Greater Philadelphia District Co-President Len Getz talks at "An Evening of Israeli Wines and Cheeses"

ZOA AROUND THE COUNTRY

“An Evening of Israeli Wines and Cheeses” featuring talks by experts and tastings of wine and cheese. This event was held in conjunction with our “Buy Israel” project.

Our twinning project with schools in Ariel continues to forge ahead.

Our quarterly meeting in May featured a talk by local veteran communal leader and former Jewish Federation president Joseph Smukler. His topic was “What Zionists Can Learn From the Soviet Jewry Movement”. Smukler and his wife Connie were prominent national leaders in the effort to gain freedom for Jews in the Soviet Union.

Steve Feldman addressed a Hadassah chapter’s closing luncheon and a Reform congregation’s men’s club.

We had a table at the Jewish community’s official Israel Independence Day celebration and collected 200 signatures on a petition opposing President Obama’s call for a Palestinian state based on the 1949 armistice lines.

The Greater Philadelphia District held its first gala in many years this September, honoring prominent Philadelphia talk-radio host Dom Giordano, and a beloved Israel activist, Rabbi Fred Kazan. Our keynote speaker was *Commentary* magazine’s Jonathan Tobin.

ZOA Michigan Region

This past March, the Michigan Region welcomed a new Executive Director. Kobi Erez was born and raised in Israel where he served for three years in combat units of the Israel Defense Forces. Having commanded his troops in high-risk areas such as Gaza and Hebron, Kobi knows firsthand why the success of the ZOA is so imperative. Kobi has long respected the ZOA’s mission and efforts. He considers himself “privileged to be working for an organization with such a clear pro-Israel message,” whose members are willing to speak up for the Jewish state, regardless of potential backlash, when others will not. Kobi maintains, “Spending most of my life in Israel, it is here, in the U.S. and particularly in Michigan, that I have met some of the strongest advocates for Israel.”

The Michigan Region’s Education Series continued into last spring with programs featuring well-known author Robert Spencer; Dr. Charles Jacobs, cofounder of CAMERA; Frank Loewenberg, Bar-Ilan University Professor Emeritus; reformed terrorist Kamal Saleem; and David Bedein, Director of the Center for Near East Policy Research who showed

the documentary, *For the Sake of Nakba*. The Michigan Region also helped sponsor an exclusive screening of the film, *Iranium*. Additionally, we again took part in the Detroit Jewish community’s annual film festival, sponsoring the film, *Winston Churchill: Walking with Destiny*.

This past spring, the Michigan Region assisted students at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in their fight to study abroad in Israel. We helped the students petition the University of Michigan Board of Regents.

Through the Sidney Silverman Scholarship Fund, we awarded grants for year-long programs in Israel to exceptional graduating high school seniors. Next year we hope to help even more young Jewish Michiganders have the opportunity to study in Israel.

This year, ZOA’s Michigan Region will be holding its first Israel Advocacy Weekend Retreat at Camp Butzel in Ortonville, Michigan. Select college students will be invited to spend a weekend learning how to advocate for Israel through lectures and discussions on Israeli politics, Jewish history and heritage, and issues faced on college campuses today.

We are also looking forward to our 78th Annual Balfour Celebration in November.

We continue to speak out in both local and national press through articles, op-eds and letters to the editor. Our e-newsletter continues to reach over 900 people each week. We encourage everyone to visit our website, www.mizoa.org and learn more about our region’s advocacy efforts and upcoming programs.

ZOA Florida Region

On April 9th, Mort Klein spoke at Shabbat services at Temple Emanuel, a prominent Conservative synagogue in historic Palm Beach. His speech, entitled “Obama and Israel,” comprehensively reviewed President Obama’s background and associations, his political appointments affecting Israel, his speeches about the Middle East, and his troubling policies toward Israel. In his critique of President Obama, Mort emphasized that the ZOA also strongly criticized Republican President George W. Bush when he promoted policies that were detrimental to Israel. On Shabbat afternoon, Mort spoke at the Palm Beach Synagogue, the premiere Orthodox synagogue in the Palm Beach area, which frequently hosts leading figures in the Jewish world.

ZOA AROUND THE COUNTRY



Hundreds of people gather at a ZOA co-sponsored rally in response to the Fogel massacre

On April 10th, Mort was honored by City of Miami Gardens Councilman, Andre Williams, at New Way Fellowship Church. New Way Fellowship is an African-American congregation whose spiritual leader, Bishop Billy Baskin, was also being honored. Mort has developed a personal relationship with Councilman Williams after they appeared together on the *Tuesday Night Live* television program last January. The Councilman is now running

for mayor of Miami Gardens, and has a remarkable record of pro-Israel advocacy. In fact, it was under his leadership that the City of Miami Gardens—whose approximately 100,000 citizens are almost all African-American—became one of the first municipalities in the country to divest from Iran. Councilman Williams has addressed two of Florida’s ZOA chapters, brilliantly articulating why African-Americans should stand with Israel and explaining the parallels between Zionism and Afrocentrism.

On April 11th, ZOA co-sponsored a community-wide shloshim memorial for the Fogel family in North Miami. The Fogels – including three young children – were massacred in their home in Itamar by Palestinian Arab terrorists. The memorial was hosted by the Falic family, one of South Florida’s most prominent Zionist families who are also supporters of ZOA’s annual student trip to Israel. Between 1,200-1,400 people attended the memorial, including many children, who sang Hatikva with hundreds of Israeli flags waving in the air. Two speakers from Israel addressed the crowd: Dr. Yechiel Leiter, former Chief of Staff to Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, and Rabbi Avi Ronsky, former Chief Rabbi of the Israel Defense Forces and neighbor of the Fogel family.

On May 31st, Mort Klein and Florida Regional Director Joe Sabag met with Ohio State Treasurer Josh Mandel. Mandel is a former two-term member of the Ohio State House of Representatives and is now running for the U.S. Senate against incumbent Sherrod Brown. He expressed his strong support for ZOA’s policy positions and advocacy. At only 33 years old, Mandel may well become one of the most dynamic pro-Israel politicians in the country.

On May 31st, Mort Klein spoke at a ZOA-sponsored

Yom Yerushalayim event at Young Israel of Hollywood. The event’s theme was “Celebrate and Defend.” Addressing a large turnout, Mort passionately presented the facts and data that support the Jewish right to Jerusalem, and also dispelled the myth of Jerusalem’s importance to Islam. *The American Spectator* published a complimentary article about the event, praising Mort’s speech. On June 1st, Mort spoke at a Yom Yerushalayim event at the Boca Raton Synagogue to an audience of over 1,000 people. U.S. Congressmen Ted Deutch and Allen West offered their remarks via video link. Mort again spoke powerfully about the Jewish right to Jerusalem, and then spent over an hour talking with members of the audience, many of whom expressed appreciation for ZOA’s uncommon honesty. A front-page article about both of Mort’s speeches appeared in the *Florida Jewish Journal*.

ZOA Los Angeles/ Western Region

ZOA Western Region has had a full slate of programs. The speakers have included:

- Israel’s General Uzi Dayan, an adviser to Prime Minister Netanyahu
- Member of Knesset Tzipi Hotovely (Likud)
- Dr. Brad Sparks and Rabbi Cooper of the Simon Wiesenthal Center
- Avraham Sion, Professor, University of Haifa
- Anita Tucker, an Israeli forcibly evicted from Gaza
- Dr. Martin Sherman, Professor, Tel Aviv University
- Steve Coughlin and Robert Spencer, *The Rise of the Muslim Brotherhood*
- Dr. Rachel Ehrenfeld – *Tracing the Money Trail of Terrorists*
- Phillipe Karsenty: French Journalist – *Debunking the al-Dura Blood Libel*
- Jay Sanderson, Director of LA Jewish Federation
- Riad Hassain, City Clerk Dalyat el-Carmel & Osafiah, Israeli Druze towns
- Nitzana Darshon-Leitner, Esq. – *Bankrupting Terror, One Lawsuit At A Time*
- Hon. Andre Williams, African-American City Councilman, Miami – *Broadening Relationships Between African-Americans & Jews In Support of Israel*
- General Herzl Bodinger – Ariel University

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Many people include some of their favorite charitable causes and organizations in their wills. The ZOA leadership is planning for a future of activism, commitment and devotion to Zionist ideals. By remembering the ZOA in your list of bequests, you can help plan for that future. For more information on the procedure for including the ZOA in your will, call the ZOA National Office at 212-481-1500.



Dear Mort,
I support the ZOA's effort to help Israel in this time of crisis. Please continue speaking out. I am proud to help the ZOA continue its work with the following gift:



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