



ZOA REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



William Kristol,
Ben Hecht
Journalism Awardee



Knesset Deputy Speaker
Danny Danon receives
ZOA Award from Board
Members Dr. Alan
Mazurek, Michael Orbach



Defender of Israel
Awardee **Gary Bauer**



Honoree **Harley Lippman** receives
the Louis Brandeis Award
from ZOA President **Morton Klein**

Annual ZOA Dinner

Upcoming DC Mission-May 12

**ZOA Student Leadership
Trip to Israel**

**ZOA People:
Carl and Sylvia Freyer**

**Abbas: No Jews Allowed
in Palestine**

Obama Misled Israel on Iran

**Dalia Rabin: Dad May
Have Stopped Oslo**

**SPRING
2011**

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Published by the
Zionist Organization of America

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ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hypothetical Obama Speech ZOA Would Love

To

an objective observer, one clear fact emerges from an examination of the Middle East: the Palestinians' continuing refusal to accept Israel as a Jewish state and their fostering of violence against Israel. One wishes that the Obama Administration would show that it understands this reality and is adopting policies to respond to it. Imagine what a difference it could make if President Barack Obama, in his next major policy statement on the Middle East, were to say something like the following:

"More than two years in office has persuaded me that, in our pursuit of an Arab-Israeli peace, we have sometimes neglected key problems.

"It is not possible to achieve peace between Arabs and Jews if Arabs do not accept the right of Jews to their own state. The United States cannot any longer accept that Palestinians are taught to reject Israel and to glorify violence against her.

"I am calling upon the Palestinian Authority (PA) to publicly accept Israel as a Jewish state.

"The United States cannot continue to expend its energy, credibility and resources on peace-making without this minimal condition being fulfilled.

"Since Oslo began 17

years ago, Israel did more than its part. It ceded control of all of Gaza and half the West Bank to the PA and offered even more, only to be rejected. Now, 99% of Palestinians live under Palestinian control, yet the PA has not done its part.

"The U.S. can no longer give unconditional aid to the PA of almost \$1 billion per year. We will now link U.S. funding to the PA verifiably ending incitement, outlawing terrorist groups, combating terrorism and accepting Israel as a Jewish state. For too long we have permitted the argument that our national security interests permit us to overlook Palestinian non-compliance with the Oslo agreements. The opposite is true: building up a Palestinian society that fosters extremism and hatred, including anti-American hatred, is a threat to the national security of not only our ally, Israel, but of the United States as



Morton A. Klein
President, Zionist
Organization of
America

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

well. As president, I can no longer permit this.

"We still hear the speeches of hateful clerics appointed by the PA calling for the murder of Jews, as in the sermon broadcast on PA TV from Nablus's Bourin Mosque on January 29, 2010, in which Jews were declared 'the enemies of Allah and of His Messenger ... Enemies of humanity in general' and Muslims were exhorted to murder them with the words 'The Prophet says: 'You shall fight the Jews and kill them...' We have heard Sheikh Ibrahim Mudeiris say in a PA TV sermon that Jews are a virus resembling AIDS. Muhammad Ahmed Hussein, appointed Mufti of Jerusalem by Mahmoud Abbas, has justified suicide bombing, saying, 'It is legitimate, of course, as long as it plays a role in the resistance.'

“ The problem is larger than merely hate-filled, extremist clerics. We see PA posters that glorify suicide bombers. We see PA/Fatah statements and programs honoring terrorists, calling them devoted brothers, heroes and martyrs. We have seen the PA president and prime minister visit terrorists and the homes of suicide bombers' families, mourning and praising them. We see vicious lies on PA TV and in newspapers describing Israel as a threat to humanity. We recently

saw the Fatah Conference named in honor of Amin Al-Hindi, mastermind of the Munich Olympics terrorist operation.

"We have even seen the PA honor Muhammad Fadlallah, responsible in the Hizballah bombing that claimed the lives of 242 U.S. servicemen in 1983. The United States cannot be expected to continue to support the PA when it glorifies killers of Americans and Israelis.

Israel in a keffiyah next to a rifle and an image of Yasser Arafat.

“ We see that the Fatah Constitution, which calls for Israel's destruction and the use of terrorism as an essential element in the campaign to achieve this goal, is unchanged.

"Conversely, we have not seen terrorist groups outlawed, as required under

Israel's existence. According to a poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research in September 2008, only 13% of Palestinians support educating Palestinian children for peace. A November 2010 ArabWorld & Development poll informs us that 85% of Palestinians don't want peace if it means compromise on borders or settlements or Jerusalem or the Israel-destroying 'right of return.'

"A 2007 poll shows that 90% of Palestinians under 25 and 75% over 25 don't accept Israel's existence.

Under my leadership, we will no longer do so.

“ We see PA programs and hear PA videos extolling terrorism. We witness scores of schools, streets and sports teams named after terrorists. We have even seen U.S. aid money used to pave a street named after Saddam Hussein. We see PA laws requiring a death sentence for anyone selling land to a Jew. We see a new Fatah emblem that drapes all of

the Oslo agreements. We have not seen any PA maps, official stationery or school atlases that even show Israel within any borders. We have not seen the PA acknowledge the Jewish religious and historical claim to the land, to Jerusalem, or even to the Western Wall, the holiest of Judaism's sites. To the contrary, we have seen these repeatedly denied by high PA officials.

"This terrifying incitement works." A 2007 poll shows that 90% of Palestinians under 25 and 75% over 25 don't accept

"Jewish settlements that encompass only 5% of Judea and Samaria are not the problem. There were no Jewish communities in the West Bank before 1967, yet there was no peace or acceptance of Israel. Why cannot 300,000 Jews live among 1.5 million Arabs, when 1.4 million Arabs live among 6 million Jews in Israel?

“ Yet, Mr. Abbas, you and your officials even proclaim that not even one Jew will be permitted to

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

live in a Palestinian state. Your enmity goes beyond Jews. You have also driven out most Christians from Bethlehem by making their lives miserable. Your actions and policies indicate that establishing a Palestinian state at this time would likely create a terrorist state, further destabilizing the Middle East.

"I am also deeply concerned that, just as Gaza fell to the Iranian-

peace and security.

"We need change, in the PA's actions, policies and culture. We need compliance with its commitments to arrest terrorists, outlaw terrorist groups and end the incitement to hatred and murder that feeds it. I expect to see President Abbas and Prime Minister Fayyad making speeches in Arabic to their people accepting Israel as a Jewish state and condemning

AROUND THE COUNTRY WITH MORTON KLEIN

**ZOA event with U.S. Cong.
Ros-Lehtinen, Deutch and West**

The Florida Region hosted a private fundraiser at the extraordinarily beautiful home of National Board Members Dan and Caroline Katz in Boca Raton. Our featured guests included freshman Congressman Allen West (R-FL), Congressman Ted Deutch (D-FL), and a video message from veteran Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chair of the powerful House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Approximately 100 guests attended, including leaders from a variety of local community organizations.

The program opened with welcoming remarks from Dan Katz. Dan spoke of his own history with ZOA and his 20-year friendship with Mort Klein.

Florida Region Executive Director Joe Sabag then introduced Congressman Ted Deutch. As a Florida State Senator in 2007, the Congressman earned national recognition for innovating and sponsoring legislation that made Florida the first state in America to exert economic pressure aimed at thwarting Iran's nuclear weapons program through divestment. Congressman Deutch, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, spoke of his personal love for Israel and of the strength of the bipartisan support that Israel will receive from the 112th Congress. He also spoke warmly of his strong relationship with ZOA and looks forward to continuing to work together.

Mort Klein then delivered a terrific lecture. He articulated ZOA's pragmatic understanding of the Arab war on Israel, the policy performance of the American and Israeli governments, and the state of U.S.-Israel relations. Mort concluded by explaining how ZOA is set apart from other pro-Israel organizations by its strict adherence to truth and realism.

Congressman Allen West was then introduced by Joe Sabag. The Congressman was elected to office in 2010 on a strong pro-Israel platform. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel from the U.S. Army after 22 years of service in infantry divisions. Congressman West has described the relationship between America and Israel as one that is both natural and imperative. When speaking on the subject, he substantiates his points with frequent references to facts and events that demonstrate an impressive breadth and depth of knowledge of the history of the Jewish people and Israel, and the ongoing Arab war against Israel. Congressman West was highly complimentary of ZOA, and in later conversation mentioned that he views ZOA as

"Jewish settlements that encompass only 5% of the West Bank are not the problem. There were no Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria before 1967..."

backed Hamas, so too could a PA state in the West Bank. A situation in which missiles are likely to be fired into the heart of Israel – Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ben Gurion Airport – is not one we wish to bring about.

“The Arab-Israeli conflict has been the result of one thing – an Arab refusal to accept a Jewish state in its biblical, religious and legal homeland. Peace can only come when there is true acceptance of Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state in

suicide bombing against Israelis as an obscenity and scourge that must be eradicated.”

Imagine what a difference it could make if President Obama would issue such a statement expressing the truth about the Arab war against Israel.

With Zionist greetings



Morton A. Klein
National President

continued on page 33



Successful ZOA Dinner With William Kristol, Gary Bauer and Danny Danon

Harley Lippman Brandeis Honoree

On November 21, 2010, nearly 800 people attended the Zionist Organization of America's (ZOA) 113th Louis D. Brandeis Award National Dinner at New York City's elegant Grand Hyatt Hotel. William Kristol, founding editor of the *Weekly Standard*, regular Fox TV panelist and co-founder of the Emergency Committee for Israel, and Gary Bauer, co-founder of Christians United for Israel and former chief domestic policy adviser to President Ronald Reagan, were keynote speakers at the Dinner at which they were also honored. Mr. Kristol was awarded the ZOA's Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism, previous recipients of which have included A.M. Rosenthal, David Bar-Ilan, Cal Thomas, Daniel Pipes, Caroline Glick and Jeff Jacoby. Mr. Bauer was this year's recipient of the ZOA's Defender of Israel Award, previous recipients of which include Israeli Vice-Prime Minister and former Israel Defense Forces Chief-of-Staff, Lt.-Gen. Moshe Yaalon, and the now- House Majority Leader Cong. Eric Cantor and former UN ambassador John Bolton.

French Senator Jean-Pierre Plancade was

honored with the Cherna & Irving Moskowitz Award for outstanding pro-Israel activism, in recognition of his extraordinary work in calling for the truth of the Al-Dura hoax to be fully investigated and for new hearings into the matter, despite the French establishment's efforts to block the truth from coming out. Philippe Karsenty, a distinguished journalist, Deputy Mayor of Neuilly, France, and President of Media-Ratings, exposed the Palestinian Authority's Muhammad Al-Dura hoax (the fabricated killing of a Palestinian boy allegedly by Israeli gunfire in September 2000, for which Israel was lambasted in the international media). Karsenty spoke of Senator Plancade's extraordinary efforts to see justice done.

This year, Harley Lippman, renowned pro-Israel activist, CEO of Genesis 10, president of the America – Israel Friendship League and board member of the Middle East Forum, received ZOA's highest honor, the Louis D. Brandeis Award. Previous recipients of the Brandeis Award have included Dr. Miriam Adelson, Vice President Joseph Biden, Abba Eban, Justice Arthur Goldberg, Ronald Lauder, Natan Sharansky, Simon



Louis D. Brandeis Award Honoree Harley Lippman

ZOA'S BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER

Wiesenthal, Elizabeth Taylor and Mortimer Zuckerman.

Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald gave a Dvar Torah regarding the late ZOA stalwart, Carl Freyer, who passed away earlier in 2010. Then, Michael Orbach, former chairman of the ZOA Board and ZOA Brandeis honoree, introduced Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, Danny Danon. Mr. Danon spoke powerfully about the importance of the ZOA and its perception of the crucial issues involved in the Arab war on Israel. Mr. Danon said, "We have a problem with Barack Obama. He is focusing on Jews building homes in Jerusalem, rather than the issue of the moment – Iran going nuclear."

“I know that the dangers of creating a Palestinian state are understood in this room. I don't have to convince you. All of you love Israel, and I commend you." Mr. Danon elaborated on the profound security threats that Israel would face from a PA-run Palestinian state. "When you come to Ben Gurion Airport, the plane that carries you must take a U-turn in order to take a safe flight path into Ben Gurion. I told Prime Minister Netanyahu, 'we don't need another ceremony at the White House, we don't need another accord that will be violated. I know that it's difficult to be the prime minister. Yet, if you told us 18 months ago that you'd put in place a freeze on Jewish construction, you wouldn't be prime minister and I wouldn't be sitting in Knesset, because the people voted for us to defend Israel'. I want to send to the prime minister a message today – 'Don't go against the people, who believe in us. You have attacked the ideology of the left. In what you do now you will get the support of Labor and Kadima – but you will lose your loyal supporters. Reject the idea of a second building freeze in Judea and Samaria.'" Mr. Danon recounted Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's demand for an explanation from Israel for approving new construction in Gilo and Pisgat Zeev, responding, "There is only one explanation – Jerusalem is and will remain the united capital of Israel." In closing, Mr. Danon said, "I want to commend



Knesset Deputy Speaker Danny Danon and ZOA Chairman of the Board Dr. Michael Goldblatt

Morton A. Klein and ZOA for what you are doing for Zionism. I want to tell you I am proud of what you are doing, because there are a lot of Jewish organizations. If we work together, we will defeat our enemies."

Dr. David Milch introduced Brandeis Awardee, Harley Lippman, whose speech was preceded by a screening of a short film, "A Torah Returns to Poland." Mr. Lippman's ancestors came from Poland and most of them were exterminated by the Nazis. Mr. Lippman spoke of his joy in being able to restore a historic

Torah scroll to Warsaw's only surviving synagogue. He described the moving trips that he and his family had taken to Poland and his efforts to help Jews and others in need, including setting up an orphanage in Cambodia. He recounted the moving story of his grandmother who, at 15 years of age, narrowly escaped molestation by a Cossack before coming alone to America and thereby continuing his family lineage that was otherwise obliterated in the Holocaust. Concluding, Mr. Lippman said, "When bad people say they're going to kill you, believe them; when Iran's leaders say they'll wipe Israel off the face of the map, believe them. We are at risk in a world in which demonstrators in Iran wave placards saying, 'Jews only appear human,' and when clerics call for fighting and vanquishing the Jews."

Cong. Anthony Weiner (D-NY) spoke briefly about the uniqueness of the ZOA's contribution to Zionism and the defense of Israel. "There is really only one organization in Washington speaking for the Zionist community as you do. Many others do not speak up when we need it most. Mort Klein was introduced to me in my first year in Congress and I have grown to know and admire his work. When a huge aid package was prepared for the Saudis, only one Jewish organization stood up to oppose it – the ZOA. Some of us stood up for Jonathan Pollard, but only one organization stood up with us – the ZOA. So I want to say thank you to you."

ZOA'S BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER

Speaking of the similarities of atmosphere between the 1930s and today, Cong. Weiner said that Israel needs to be staunchly defended, and that “standing up for Israel is one of the ways we say G-d bless America.” He noted his stances in opposition to President Obama on aid to Saudi Arabia, aid to the PA and dividing Jerusalem.

Martin Gross, president of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and a ZOA Brandeis honoree, introduced Ben Hecht Awardee William Kristol, who spoke of the significance of Zionism to Jews both before and after the Holocaust. He described learning from Leo Strauss, “a proud Jew, a student of Maimonides, Aristotle, Machiavelli and Hobbes, someone who was already a Zionist in the 1920s, about the life-altering course of political Zionism, which was an attempt to restore the Jews’ inner freedom of which only people who are loyal to their heritage and loyal to their faith are capable.” He recounted how previous Ben Hecht Awardee, Philippe Karsenty, had fought an infinitely difficult fight for justice in the Al-Dura hoax case in France and how he himself had experienced the difficulty of being “part of the ZOA wing of the Harvard faculty” – an allusion to Cong. Weiner’s frequent statement that he comes from the ZOA wing of the Democratic Party. Mr. Kristol also referred to the little-remembered 1936 book, *The Yellow Spot*, documenting the Nazi genocidal assault on Jews already then in evidence. He recounted that Winston Churchill had said that it is important to act to preserve England, not only to have good intentions. “It is the same with Israel: we can’t just wish Israel well, we have to make sure that the forces are there to secure it and that the U.S. can survive and flourish. It is not enough to want to do the right thing; one has an obligation to combat evil.”

Joyce Chernick, a great activist Zionist, introduced Gary Bauer, who gave a rousing address celebrating

Israel and the ZOA. “You are Jews who are strong in your faith. I want to tell you that there are millions more of us who support Israel. We are Hamas’, Hizballah’s and Islamic Jihad’s worst nightmare. Yet, when you are here with friends and neighbors enjoying this evening, there are evil people who worship death who are feverishly working on ways to bring to you, and to all Americans and Israelis, sorrows greater than those you’ve already experienced. They don’t want to kill 3,000 or 30,000 people, but millions. They won’t rest until there is a mushroom cloud over New York, or London or Berlin or Jerusalem or Tel Aviv. They are motivated, they tell us, by their faith. I don’t know why political correctness has such a hold on us, but I take these people at their word. Today the greatest threat to the Jews is the Islamists and the Western elites who are too cowardly to confront them. When someone of questionable background said that he was going to build a mosque at Ground Zero, 70% even here in this diverse city said no. I watched the Mayor of New York and our President say that the mosque should be built, then they went on to lecture us on why it should be built and they told us that we who are opposed were somehow intolerant, that we didn’t understand the Constitution. Why are they unable to understand the instincts of normal Americans? We say that there should

be no monument erected in the name of the faith in which the terrorists acted. The problem of intolerance is not in the heartland of America, it is in the heartland of Islam. Planning an act of evil, like the Holocaust, cannot occur unless good men avert their gaze and rationalize evil. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad can come to this very city and speak at the UN, without having to worry that he is a war criminal who needs to be brought to justice.” Turning to Jewish-Christian relations, Mr. Bauer said, “I can’t ignore what Christians have done to Jews. I can’t explain it. Good Germans brought the crooked cross and



Former AIPAC President Lonny Kaplan and former U.S. Ambassador to Uruguay Martin Silverstein

ZOA'S BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER

placed it beside the cross of Jesus; I cannot erase the memory – but today, I can tell you that there are millions of Christians who know that we cannot worship a Jewish carpenter and be opposed to the Jews. I'm actually an optimist; we live in an unbelievable civilization, the Judeo-Christian civilization with its roots in Rome, Athens and Jerusalem. I know that we, Christians and Jews, can overcome the disdain of our own elites and the jihadists. We know that there are still young men in this country willing to go into the heart of darkness

to fight the death-worshipping jihadists. I believe that because of men and women like you, that in a year, and in 100 years, the stars and stripes will fly over a free America and the Star of David will fly over Jerusalem, united forever as Israel's capital."

Dr. Shelly Ventura-Cohen, a prominent Beverly Hills psychologist and Executive Director of ZOA in California, introduced ZOA National President Morton A. Klein, who opened by congratulating Harley Lippmann, Gary Bauer, William Kristol and Danny Danon for making the 113th ZOA Dinner such a special evening, then turning to the commitment of ZOA activists and supporters, Mr. Klein said "Had the Jewish and Christian Zionists in this room existed in the 1930s, history would have been very different."

Klein recounted the many important ZOA successes in preventing or terminating the appointments to important government posts of people like Islamist apologist Salam Al-Marayati, Israel-basher Joe Zogby, top aide to the Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, Israel-basher John Roth, and Saudi apologist and inveterate anti-Israel bigot Chas. W. Freeman. He noted how the ZOA incenses its critics, observing that the ZOA, one of several organizations targeted in the Israel-bashing Mearsheimer-Walt book on the pro-Israel lobby, is cited 12 times.

Klein spoke of the ZOA's recent important



U.S. Congressman Eliot Engel (D-NY) speaking with ZOA President Morton Klein

breakthrough in having Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, which has applied to blacks and Hispanics, now applied to protecting Jewish students from discrimination, intimidation and harassment. Klein noted the distressing fact that ADL and Hillel had early on condemned ZOA for being gun-slingers from the east coast and exaggerating the problems for Jews on campus.

"With respect to Israel, I'm getting sick and tired of leaders telling us what we want to hear, but not what we need to hear.

We keep hearing if Israel would only give more land and make more concessions, then we can finally have peace. But the truth is, the Arab war against Israel has nothing to do with borders, land, settlements or a Palestinian state. It is simply old-fashioned Jew-hatred and anti-Semitism. The Arabs don't want a Jewish state within any borders. Please understand, Arabs don't want peace with the Jewish state, they never wanted peace with the Jewish state. And as much as we want peace, Israel will live and thrive without it, as it has since 1948.

"Nevertheless, President Obama and much of the world think differently, despite the absence of any sign of peace after giving away half of Judea and Samaria, all of Gaza, and having 99% of Palestinians living under Palestinian rule. Obama is demanding yet another unilateral freeze and unilateral land concessions from Israel, while he and his administration condemn Israel for building homes for Jews in eastern Jerusalem.

"President Obama condemns Israel while speaking from Indonesia, which doesn't even allow Israelis to enter their country. How much more important and powerful it would have been if he had urged the large Muslim majority country of Indonesia to recognize Israel? And how powerful would it have been if President Obama had publicly urged Muslim leaders, imams and sheikhs to hold a press conference and publicly condemn radical Islamic terrorism as a nightmare and outrage, while accepting Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state?

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“Nevertheless, while President Obama and his administration condemn Israel for building in east Jerusalem, they are silent on the PA’s recent anti-peace, pro-terror actions. When Mahmoud Abbas told Arab journalists that if Arab states go to war with Israel, ‘We are for it,’ President Obama and Secretary Clinton were silent. When Salaam Fayyad walked out of a meeting at the UN with Israeli counterparts because he refused to sign a joint communiqué that spoke of a state for the Jews, President Obama and Secretary Clinton were silent. When the PA celebrated terrorist leader Dalal Mughrabi, President Obama and Secretary Clinton were silent. When Abbas praised the late terrorist mastermind Abu Daoud, President Obama and Secretary Clinton were silent. When the PA ambassador to Iran said that Israel would be destroyed in due course, President Obama and Secretary Clinton were silent. When Fayyad paid condolence calls to the families of dead terrorists while praising them as heroes, President Obama and Secretary Clinton were silent. When, in the last few weeks, the PA referred to Tel Aviv and other Israeli cities as ‘occupied,’ President Obama and Secretary Clinton were silent. But when a Jew says he wants to live in Jerusalem, all hell breaks out from this anti-Israel administration. I say to President Obama and Secretary Clinton, for shame, for shame.”

Klein observed that the Obama Administration has given the PA nearly \$2 billion without any conditions – no outlawing of terrorists, no condemnation of terror, no end to incitement. “The PA gets more money per capita than any nation on earth. American Jews see what is happening and recent polls



Right: ZOA Board Member Henry Schwartz and family

show that by more than two to one they disapprove of Obama’s policies towards Israel. So every American Jewish organization has the right and basis to criticize Obama for his demands and pressure on Israel.”

Klein concluded, “The whole world is condemning and pressuring Israel. Can the whole world be wrong and Israel be right? History teaches us that, when it comes to the Jews, the whole world has been regularly wrong and Israel right. When Israel bombed Iraq’s Osirak nuclear reactor in 1981, the whole world condemned Israel for it. Nevertheless the whole world was wrong, and we were right. Across much of history, we were monotheists, everyone else were polytheists – the whole world was wrong, and we were right. When the world accused us of crucifying Jesus, or killing gentile children, poisoning wells, causing bubonic plague, and made blood libels against us – the whole world was wrong, we were right and the same is true today.” Mort received a standing ovation.

Martin S. Foont, founder and CEO of Global Tax Services, and Yacov Wrocherinsky, founder and CEO of Infinity Info Systems, were Dinner Co-Chairmen. Approximately 100 college students attended the dinner, and those who participated in a ZOA student mission to Israel rose when called upon by ZOA Campus Managing Director, Josh Nason, and were acknowledged by Dinner attendees. Several ZOA student activists made the blessing over the bread and Dr. Alan Mazurek, Chairman of the ZOA’s National Advisory Council, was Master of Ceremonies, presiding over proceedings with his usual sparkling wit and charm.



ZOA Campus Managing Director, Josh Nason and ZOA students



After A Six-Year ZOA Campaign, the U.S. Department of Education Announces That It Will Protect Jewish Students from Anti-Semitic Harassment Under Title VI

Anti-Semitism

remains at a troubling level on our college campuses, and even in some middle and high schools, affecting the physical and emotional safety and well-being of Jewish students. Now these students will have the same legal recourse that has been afforded to other ethnic and racial groups facing harassment or intimidation at publicly funded schools. On October 26, 2010, the U.S. Department of Education announced that Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 will now be interpreted and enforced to protect Jewish students from anti-Semitic harassment, intimidation and discrimination. Title VI requires that federally funded schools ensure that their programs and activities are free from racial and ethnic discrimination, or risk losing their federal funding. This new policy was set forth in a letter addressing bullying in schools. Russlynn Ali, head of the U.S. Education Department's Office for Civil Rights, declared in the letter that "anti-Semitic harassment can trigger responsibilities under Title VI. While Title VI does not cover discrimination based solely on religion, groups [such as Jews] that face discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics may not be denied protection under Title VI on the ground that they also share a common faith."

Prior to this policy clarification, OCR was interpreting Title VI narrowly, viewing Jews strictly as a religious group and not also an ethnic group that would entitle them to Title VI's protections. OCR



Susan Tuchman
Director, Center for
Law and Justice

applied this narrow interpretation when it dismissed the ZOA's Title VI complaint on behalf of Jewish students at the University of California, Irvine (UCI).

Filed in October 2004, the ZOA's complaint alleged that Jewish students at UCI had been subjected to years of anti-Semitic harassment, intimidation and discrimination, which the university knew about but failed to redress, in violation of Title VI. OCR decided that the ZOA's complaint should be investigated, rendering it the first case of anti-Semitism that the agency ever agreed to investigate under Title VI. But shortly after the investigation began, new leadership came on board at OCR, which resulted in a change in the way that the agency interpreted Title VI. OCR decided that Jews were strictly a religious group and not also an ethnic group that would be entitled to the protections of Title VI. As a result, after the case was pending at OCR for approximately three years (most cases are resolved in six months), the agency dismissed the case, concluding that OCR lacked jurisdiction over many of the allegations of the complaint. The ZOA appealed this decision; after close to three years, the appeal is still pending.

Since OCR's decision in November 2007, the ZOA has been working hard to ensure that Jewish students get the legal protections they need and deserve. Through op-eds, letters, ads, petitions, and speeches at a variety of venues, we have been educating the public about the problems that Jewish students have been facing across the nation, and their need for the same legal protection from harassment and discrimination that has been guaranteed to other ethnic and racial groups since Title VI was enacted in 1964.

The ZOA has also helped rally the support of other Jewish groups on the Title VI issue. In March 2010, we drafted a letter to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, urging the Department of Education to protect Jewish students under Title VI. Twelve other Jewish groups – the American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League, B'nai B'rith International, Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, the Institute for Jewish & Community Research, the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, Scholars for Peace in the Middle East, and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America – signed the letter.

We have also been alerting and educating Members of Congress about the loophole in Title VI that leaves Jewish students unprotected when they're harassed or intimidated. As a result of our advocacy efforts, U.S. Senators and Congressmen wrote letters to the Education Secretary, decrying OCR's decision in the ZOA's case against UCI and

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE



The United States Department of Education will now protect Jewish students under Title VI

urging OCR to enforce Title VI to protect Jewish students. In June 2010, at a briefing convened by the Congressional Task Force Against Anti-Semitism, the ZOA informed Members of Congress and their staff about anti-Semitic harassment on U.S. college campuses, and the federal government's role in addressing these incidents. The briefing led to letters from dozens of Members of Congress to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, urging the Education Department to protect Jewish students from anti-Semitic harassment under Title VI.

After all these efforts, the Department of Education has finally announced that Jewish students are protected under Title VI. In issuing this new policy, the Department made several significant points:

- A Title VI violation doesn't have to involve repeated incidents; one incident, if sufficiently severe, can be enough.
- The harassment doesn't have to be directed at a specific target in order to create a hostile environment that violates Title VI. Even if a student is targeted, and he/she isn't actually Jewish but just perceived to be Jewish, the school is still obligated to respond under Title VI.
- Schools must "take prompt and effective steps" not

only to end the harassment, but also to "prevent its recurrence."

- Disciplining the perpetrators isn't enough to satisfy Title VI. Schools must implement a "more systemic response," which might include counseling the perpetrators about the hurtful impact of their conduct; publicly labeling the incidents as anti-Semitic; affirming the school's anti-discrimination policy; publicizing how students may report harassment; providing training to teachers to recognize and address anti-Semitic incidents; creating age-appropriate programs for students about the history and dangers of anti-Semitism; and reaching out to parents and the community to prevent future anti-Semitic harassment.

With this new policy, Jewish students will now be afforded the same legal protection under Title VI that other ethnic and racial groups have enjoyed since Title VI was enacted in 1964. Schools will now be obligated to fix a hostile anti-Semitic environment and prevent its recurrence so that Jewish students can get their education in an environment that every student needs and deserves – one that is physically and emotionally safe, and conducive to learning.

New Book on Jewish Identity and Civil Rights Highlights ZOA's Groundbreaking Work to Protect Jewish Students

The ZOA's trailblazing work to protect Jewish students from anti-Semitism and the demonization and delegitimization of the State of Israel was acclaimed in a newly published book called *Jewish Identity and Civil Rights in America*. Published by Cambridge University Press, the book's author is Kenneth L. Marcus, Executive Vice President and Director of the Institute for Jewish & Community Research's Anti-Semitism Initiative. Mr. Marcus is the former head of the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR). Under his leadership, OCR had decided in 2004 to enforce Title VI to protect Jewish students, only to revert back to a policy of not protecting Jewish students after Mr. Marcus left the agency.

In his book, Mr. Marcus described the distinctive force and

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

impact of the ZOA's Title VI complaint against the University of California, Irvine (UCI), where Jewish students faced years of anti-Semitic harassment, intimidation and discrimination: "To start, few complaints were as luridly detailed or as compelling as [the ZOA's], which painted an appalling portrait of both anti-Jewish harassment and administrative indifference. The number of incidents, the detail with which they were presented, and the extent to which they formed a pattern of malfeasance were extraordinary for an OCR complaint."

The ZOA's complaint, in Mr. Marcus' experience, was unique: "Of all the complaints that I had reviewed at OCR, only one or two remotely approached the power, complexity, and lawyerly craftsmanship that [the ZOA] put into [its complaint]. More important, [the ZOA's complaint] was the first to apply OCR's new policy on mixed ethnic/religious discrimination, which I had issued just months before, to a systemic case of hostile anti-Jewish environment in higher education."

In his book, Mr. Marcus revealed the truth about OCR's investigation of the ZOA's complaint against UCI. OCR regional investigators had actually concluded that the ZOA "was right that Irvine students faced levels of discrimination that were so severe, pervasive, or objectively offensive as to limit their educational opportunities." But the leadership at OCR headquarters in Washington, D.C. overruled this conclusion, viewing Jews strictly as a religious group not entitled to the protection of Title VI. As a result, the ZOA's

complaint was dismissed in November 2007, despite the investigators' findings. Mr. Marcus also revealed that the regional director of OCR's California office conceded that by 2006, "Irvine's response was not in fact sufficient and ... [the university] was fully in violation [of Title VI]."

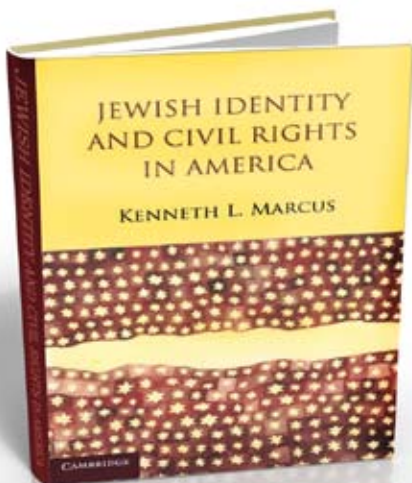
Mr. Marcus initially exposed the truth behind the Irvine investigation in an article he wrote for the September 2010 issue of *Commentary* magazine, which he adapted from his soon-to-be-released book. The book is a compelling read and highlights the critical role that the ZOA has been playing in changing the course of civil rights enforcement for the protection of Jewish students.

ZOA's Legal Director Addresses Detroit's Jewish Community and University Administrators

On December 8, 2010, the ZOA's Michigan region hosted a community forum on fighting campus anti-Semitism and Israel-bashing. The forum took place at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills; Susan Tuchman, the director of the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, was the keynote speaker. Officials from four area universities – the University of Michigan, Oakland University, Michigan State University, and Wayne State University – attended and participated.

Susan described the anti-Semitic harassment and intimidation that Jewish students are facing on campuses across the country, and the new U.S. Department of Education policy that requires federally funded schools to redress these problems and ensure that they don't recur. Jason Holtzman, the ZOA's Campus Coordinator for the Midwest Region, also spoke, confirming that Jewish students are facing problems on college campuses in the Midwest. Then, each of the university officials described the environment on their respective campuses, as well as their policies and protocols for responding to harassment problems. A question-and-answer period followed, during which community members – including students and their families – identified various problems that had occurred on some of the Michigan-area campuses, which had not been satisfactorily addressed and which had negatively affected the campus environment for Jewish students.

Earlier that day, Susan spoke to three junior classes at



Kenneth Marcus: *Jewish Identity and Civil Rights in America*

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

the Frankel Jewish Academy, a private Jewish high school. Susan shared with them some of the problems that Jewish students have faced on their college campuses, as well as the new U.S. Department of Education policy that will now protect Jewish students who are harassed or intimidated. Susan and the students discussed effective ways of responding to anti-Semitic and anti-Israel sentiment on campus. Several students stayed after class to continue the discussion. One student brought in a friend who had not even attended the session to be part of the dialogue.

After Susan returned from Detroit, she followed up with each of the four administrators, enclosing the new Department of Education policy letter and other information that would be useful in redressing campus problems that uniquely affect Jewish students. Thanks to this forum, university administrators in the Detroit area have a clearer sense of the kinds of problems that Jewish students are facing both in and out of the classroom. And administrators are now more aware of their legal responsibilities should Jewish students complain about a hostile campus environment.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

BRIEFINGS TO ZOA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The ZOA's Board of Directors was privileged to receive several briefings apprising them of the latest issues concerning the Middle East and U.S.-Israel relations. After each briefing, ZOA participants had the opportunity to ask questions of our distinguished guests.

November, 2010

Special Guest: John M. McLaughlin, Founder/CEO McLaughlin & Associates, a leading public opinion research/polling firm.

Topic: What Should We Learn from the Midterm Elections?

The post-election survey conducted by Mr. McLaughlin's firm resulted in the finding that the election was a Conservative landslide, but not a Republican landslide.

Other results indicated that citizens are insecure about terrorism, and there is heightened concern about foreign policy. Iran especially is of concern, with 80% of those polled worried about Iran posing a nuclear threat.

43% of U.S. citizens believe their government's policies are harming Israel (versus only 30% who don't hold that belief). American public opinion is concerned with Israel as its security is linked to the U.S.'s security, and Americans don't favor sending financial aid to the Palestinians because the latter do not favor the U.S.

The survey also found that Republicans should make a serious dent in the Jewish vote during the 2012 election, with the reason given that Jews have friends and relatives living in Israel, who are providing feedback to their friends and relatives living in the U.S. President Obama will have to moderate his policies if he wants to get reelected.

December, 2010

Special Guest: Ido Aharoni, Israel's Consul General for New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Meeting with Mr. Aharoni afforded the ZOA Board an

opportunity to hear and learn the latest developments in Israel, while offering the ZOA's views on these developments. The meeting also presented Mr. Aharoni the framework in which to share with the Board the Netanyahu Administration's positions on current events and developments as well, from the perspective of the most visible and important Consul post for Israel in the United States.

February, 2011

Special Guest: MK Ariele Eldad, Member of Knesset from the National Union Party.

Dr. Eldad discussed the implications of the recent protests in Egypt for Israel and for the Israel-Egypt peace treaty. He also addressed the so-called peace process between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, which he characterized as including neither peace nor a process. Creating another Palestinian state would be a disaster, in his view. There already is a Palestinian state: Jordan is Palestine and Palestine is Jordan.

February, 2011

Special Guest: Professor Abraham Sion, former Israeli Deputy State Attorney and now the Chair of the Center for Law and Mass Media at Ariel University.

In Professor Sion's view, the Israeli government is on the wrong path, and the rank and file must show it the right way forward. He feels it's a big mistake not to talk about why the Jews are in Israel and not in Africa. Until Israel states clearly that the Oslo agreements were a mistake for Israel, the common assumption will continue to be that they were a positive development. In order to bring about the necessary changes in the fundamental assumptions underpinning the direction being taken by successive Israeli leadership, Professor Sion strongly believes that a think tank must be built to develop the legal, social and historical points and solutions which will drive the successive Israeli governments toward the right path and keep them there.



Government Relations Department Welcomes New Congress to DC

Washington, D.C. has been a dynamic place over the last few months, and the Government Relations Department has been very busy. There was a flurry of legislative activity prior to the midterm election, but the most significant outcome for the pro-Israel community was the election itself.

In the run-up to the midterm election, and following the ambush of Israeli naval commandos on the Turkish ship Mavi Marmara in May 2010, Rep. Dana Titus (D-NV), along with 23 bipartisan co-sponsors, worked closely with ZOA to introduce a resolution (H. RES. 1532) calling for an investigation of Turkey and the IHH terrorist group regarding their role in instigating the crisis. The resolution had a significant impact on the diplomacy surrounding the Gaza Flotilla incident, and State Department investigations of the IHH are continuing.

The Government Relations Department also worked very closely with Susan Tuchman, Director of ZOA's Center

for Law and Justice, in achieving a major victory in protecting the rights of Jewish students. Due in large part to our efforts, the U.S. Department of Education recently clarified that it will enforce Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to protect Jewish students from anti-Semitic harassment at federally funded schools. The next step is a ZOA effort to amend the law so that the new policy is enshrined in legislation.

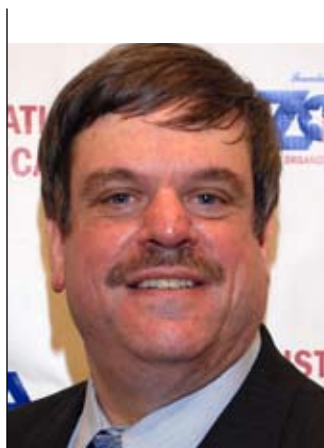
Shortly after the election, ZOA collaborated with several offices for introduction of a congressional resolution opposing a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, and strongly supported the resulting congressional resolution (H.RES. 1734) "reaffirming Congressional opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state" which was sponsored by Rep. Ted Poe (R-TX) and Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), new chairperson of the House Foreign Relations Committee, along with Reps. Shelley Berkley (D-NV), Anthony Weiner (D-NY), Dan Burton (R-IN), and 28 others. In the final stretch, however, outgoing Committee Chairman Rep. Howard Berman (D-CA) decided to introduce his own version of the resolution which weakened the sense of congress language and recast the resolution as renewed support for the peace process. The final version, H. RES. 1765 "Supporting a negotiated solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and condemning unilateral measures to declare or recognize a Palestinian state," was a synthesis of the ZOA-supported version championed by Rep. Ros-Lehtinen and the version written by Rep. Berman. The resolution passed in mid-December.

The 112th Congressional session began in January. As the new members of the House and Senate get situated on Capitol Hill, the Co-Directors of Government Relations for ZOA have been and will be busy reaching out to each of the new Senators and Representatives and their staff to introduce them to ZOA, build an organizational relationship, and educate the members in general about the Arab war against Israel, in all its facets.

The November 2010 election resulted in a new Republican Majority, which means a change in leadership



Josh London,
Co-Director,
Government Relations
Department



Dan Pollak,
Co-Director,
Government Relations
Department

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

for every House Committee. Perhaps the most anticipated change is in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where the incoming Chairperson is Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).

Rep. Ros-Lehtinen is a wonderful asset to the nation and a great friend to ZOA and Israel. She has worked closely with ZOA in the past and has authored or sponsored numerous bills and resolutions advocated by ZOA. (She recently spoke at a ZOA fundraiser in Boca Raton, Florida.)

Even before taking her place as the new Committee Chair, Rep. Ros-Lehtinen announced her intention to “work to restore fiscal discipline to foreign affairs, reform troubled programs and organizations, exercise vigorous oversight to identify waste, fraud, and abuse, and counter the threats posed to our nation by rogue states and violent extremists...I plan on using U.S. contributions to international organizations as leverage to press for real reform of those organizations . . . and will not hesitate to call for withdrawal of U.S. funds to failed entities like the discredited Human Rights Council.”

A short list of Rep. Ros-Lehtinen’s unfinished legislation from the last Congress gives us a preview of her likely priorities on the House Foreign Affairs Committee for 2011, and makes clear that she shares ZOA’s concerns about unconditional U.S. aid of almost \$1 billion a year to the Palestinian Authority and to the UN’s pro-Palestinian bodies. She is expected to introduce equivalent legislation in the new Congress: the “United Nations Transparency, Accountability, and Reform Act of 2009” (H.R. 557), which makes continued U.S. contributions to the UN contingent on reform, with particular attention to pro-Palestinian UN organs, including UNRWA; the “UNRWA Humanitarian Accountability Act” (H.R. 5065), which also focused on preventing U.S. aid from reaching Hamas and other terrorists groups in Gaza; and the “United States Foreign Assistance Partner Vetting System Act of 2009” (H.R. 1062), which would establish rules for groups that receive U.S. aid and would make it much more difficult for the Palestinian Authority (PA) to allow money to get to terrorists. There are many other bills and resolutions as well. ZOA’s Government Relations Department looks forward to working closely with Rep. Ros-Lehtinen to introduce such legislation and to help shepherd it along through the legislative process.

The problem of Iran and its quest to acquire a military nuclear capability continues to pose a challenge to both American and Israeli security. ZOA and our friends on Capitol Hill are pushing for the robust enforcement of the

new sanctions enacted into law in July 2010. The record of the last few presidents at enforcing Iran sanctions has been a bipartisan embarrassment, and if sanctions are going to achieve the result of forcing a change in Iranian behavior before a military attack is unavoidable, robust enforcement is a minimum requirement.

Relations between the Obama Administration and the pro-Israel community continue to be problematic. The Wikileaks revelations late in 2010 revealed that the administration has been disingenuous in claiming that Israeli unilateral concessions to the Palestinian Authority were required before Arab countries in the region would support U.S. policy against Iran. In fact, the Gulf States have been advocating a stronger policy of working to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. In the report, the Arab states never mentioned the issue of the Arab-Israeli situation or Jewish settlements. ZOA has been challenging the administration on its policy, its approach to the conflict, and even its terminology, from the first days of the administration.

In light of the 2010 elections and the failure of the “settlements first” U.S. approach, Democratic members of Congress who have had a close relationship with ZOA have become more willing to challenge the policy of the administration. But the fact remains that the President and the executive branch are far more important in the formulation of foreign policy than the legislative branch. The Republican leadership in both houses of Congress is skeptical of the President’s approach to the region, and ZOA will continue to work to mitigate the policies of the administration that seek to pressure Israel to make concessions which are not in either American or Israeli interests while they reward Palestinian Arab intransigence and extremism.

The Co-Directors of Government Relations have also been active in presenting ZOA’s case at think-tank policy conferences and to the media and public. They have been interviewed and participated on panel discussions for TV and radio, including for Russia Today, Al-Jazeera, Al-Arabia and Press TV. They have been keynote speakers for the Christian “Friends of Israel” group at their annual conventions, and have spoken for Jewish audiences in Florida and in the DC area.

At the heart of 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 grass roots advocacy that is so important to our being effective in Washington, DC.



ZOA'S BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER



Former AIPAC President Lonnie Kaplan and ZOA President Morton Klein



Fox News Analyst William Kristol receives Ben Hecht Journalism Award from Washington Institute President, Martin Gross, as Dr. Alan Mazurek and Morton Klein look on



Joyce Chernick presents Gary Bauer with the Defender of Israel Award as Morton Klein and Harley Lippman look on



Left to right: Fox News Analyst William Kristol, Knesset Deputy Speaker Danny Danon, ZOA Chairman of the Board Dr. Michael Goldblatt and ZOA Board Member Howard Schaerf



ZOA Board Members Harvey Friedman, Bob Jacobs and their wives



ZOA Chair Dr. Michael Goldblatt, Mrs. Bauer, Speaker Gary Bauer, MC Dr. Alan Mazurek and Karen Mazurek



ZOA'S BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER



ZOA Board Member Dr. Jonathan Gold and friends



Left to right: Philip Getz, ZOA Board Member Martin Sokol, and Robert Schimmel



Left: ZOA Board Member Gene Shusman and friends



Left to right: ZOA Board Member Steve Goldberg, Jennifer Chernick, Journalist Philippe Karsenty, Joyce Chernick, Rita Klein, Jerome Taylor



Left to right: ZOA Board Members Lew Dashe, Jay Knopf, Dr. Seth Corey, Gerry Platt, and their families



Center: ZOA Board Member Josh Landes and Washington Institute President Martin Gross with friends



College students attending the ZOA Dinner



Second from right: ZOA Board Member Ruben Margules and family



ZOA'S BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER



Master of Ceremonies Dr. Alan Mazurek



Congressman Eliot Engel (D-NY) speaks with ZOA Awardee William Kristol



Dr. Shelley Ventura-Cohen, Executive Director ZOA Southern California



Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald, founder of National Jewish Outreach Program, delivers invocation



ZOA Board Member Michael Orbach (seated) and family



Left and right: Knesset Deputy Speaker Danny Danon speaks with ZOA lobbyist Dan Pollak



ZOA President Morton Klein, Ben Hecht Journalism Awardee William Kristol and Defender of Israel Awardee Gary Bauer



Record Turnout of Students and Young Professionals at ZOA Dinner

Over 100 students and young professionals attended the ZOA Annual Dinner in New York last November, a record turnout. Many of these students and young professionals also volunteered at the Dinner, and were instrumental in the success of the evening. Three ZOA student leaders led Hamotzi at the dinner, and were recognized by ZOA Dinner Chair Dr. Alan Mazurek for their activism. Later in the evening, all past participants in the ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel were recognized and a slideshow of the most recent trip was shown. ZOA is proud that the student and young professional delegation has continued to increase at the ZOA Annual Dinner.

“Gaza 5 Years After” Campaign

In the fall, ZOA unveiled its “Gaza 5 Years After” campaign on campus, taking a multi-faceted look at the aftermath of Israel’s unilateral withdrawal from Gaza in 2005. The cam-

paign included a poster with facts and a timeline of Jewish history in Gaza, a multimedia presentation that helped students understand the issues in depth, and a number of philanthropy events to help the Gush Katif refugees.

ZOA Campus staff members were invited to a number of campuses nationwide to give the “Gaza 5 Years After” presentation. In Florida, we were joined by Dror Vanunu, Director of the Gush Katif Development Fund and international liaison for the scattered communities of Gush Katif, who spoke during a Gush Katif 5 Years Later Commemoration event with students from Florida International University, Miami Dade College, Florida Atlantic University, and young professionals from K Space.





ZOA student activ-

ists also held a number of charity fundraisers for Operation Dignity, an organization that assists Gush Katif refugees. One event took place in New York City in August, and another event was held in Binghamton. The initiative for these philanthropy events came from past participants in the ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel, who saw firsthand the Gush Katif refugee communities.

ZOA Helps Pittsburgh Students Fight Back Against “I Love Hamas” Program

ZOA helped University of Pittsburgh students counter an anti-Israel the-

atrical event entitled “I Heart Hamas and Other Things I’m Afraid to Tell You.” Samantha Vinokor, a former ZOA intern and current president of the Pittsburgh Israel Public Affairs Committee (PIPAC), tried to place an ad in the University of Pittsburgh student paper to publicize the “real facts about Hamas.” The paper’s editorial staff initially approved the ad, but then rejected it just prior to press time on the basis that it was “too offensive.” ZOA drafted a letter on the students’ behalf objecting to the paper’s decision. ZOA’s intervention helped, as the paper ended up offering to print the ad and also apologized for the incident.

			
Josh Nason, Managing Director, ZOA Campus Programs	David Kadosh, ZOA Campus Coordinator, East Coast Region; Director of Young Professional Activities	Sharona Whisler, ZOA Campus Coordinator, Southeast Region	Jason Holtzman ZOA Campus Coordinator, Midwest Region

CAMPUS ACTIVISM NETWORK

ZOA Co-Sponsored Tour Tells Truth About Sderot at Midwest Campuses

ZOA co-sponsored a campus tour in the Midwest to challenge the anti-Israel propaganda on campus about Gaza and to present the facts about the human suffering in Sderot. Working with Sderot Media Center Director Noam Bedein, the tour illustrated the effects that 10,000+ rockets have had on the civilian population in Sderot and the Western Negev. It also highlighted the type of warfare used by Hamas, explaining that “97% of the rockets fired during Operation Cast Lead were from densely populated areas.” This tour was especially helpful in showing students that terror attacks from Gaza are ongoing.

ZOA Campus Staff Attend Israel Amplified Conference

ZOA Campus staff members Josh Nason and Sharona Whisler attended this year's Israel Amplified Conference. The conference brought together

over 100 fraternity and sorority members to learn how to do Israel advocacy within the Greek System. ZOA gave its “Gaza 5 Years After” presentation to several dozen students, and also led workshops on Israel advocacy skills. ZOA's presence at the conference helped increase students' knowledge base about Israel and energize students for the next semester.

ZOA Co-Sponsors Boston Conference Countering Delegitimization of Israel

ZOA co-sponsored CAMERA's Fall 2010 Conference, “War By Other Means: The Global Campaign to Delegitimize Israel.” The conference featured a number of expert speakers on attempts to delegitimize Israel around the world, and included a special student track. Josh Nason, Managing Director of ZOA Campus Programs, represented ZOA at the conference and met with students there throughout the event.

ZOA Sponsors Events on Zionism and the Ethiopian-Israeli Experience

ZOA sponsored an event with Israeli Ethiopian actor and international filmmaker Sirak Sebhat to speak about his journey from Ethiopia to Israel, the history of Ethiopian Jewry and the strong sense of Zionism that brought the Ethiopian Jews back to the Jewish homeland. ZOA also brought Zion Uness to a Yeshiva University Shabbaton to tell his story of how Israel saved his community in Ethiopia. Next semester, Zion Uness will be speaking on a number of Midwest campuses during Black History Month.

ZOA Helps Columbia Students Counter Mock Checkpoint

In November, Columbia University's Students for Justice in Palestine set up a mock Israeli checkpoint in the middle of campus. ZOA helped pro-Israel students create a counter demonstration. The pro-Israel groups rallied together and sent out

massive action alerts to the community seeking support, despite having less than 48 hours' notice of the mock checkpoint. Zionist organizations and student groups worked together and showed up in force at the counter demonstration to help with the dissemination of materials highlighting the necessity of checkpoints to prevent terrorist attacks on Israeli civilians.

ZOA Young Professional Division

The ZOA Young Professional Division organized the launch of the “Gaza 5 Years After” Campaign with a charity fundraiser held in August for Operation Dignity, an Israeli charity that provides for refugees from Gush Katif. In December, the ZOA Young Professionals co-sponsored one of the largest Chanukah parties in New York City, the Chanukah United Party. The event was a great opportunity for pro-Israel young professionals to network, with over 700 people in attendance. The ZOA Young Professional Board is planning many exciting events for the spring, including a Krav Maga training event and a Leadership Cocktail Hour.



Experiencing the Land of Israel: ZOA Student Leadership Mission 2011

The annual ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel was once again a success as several dozen students from New York University, Binghamton University, University of Maryland, Rutgers University, University of California-Irvine, Brandeis University, University of Illinois and other schools accompanied ZOA Campus Coordinators Sharona Whisler and Jason Holtzman across the Land of Israel for two weeks in December 2010-January 2011.

The

mission's goal was to show students the Jewish people's deep connection to the Land of Israel, and help them understand the threats that Israel faces from its enemies. Students heard from influential and expert speakers such as MKs Danny Danon and Aryeh Eldad, Ambassador Dore Gold at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, and Vice Prime Minister Moshe "Boogie" Ya'alon who gave an off-the-record briefing about security issues in Israel and the demonization that the country has been facing from abroad.

The group arrived in Jerusalem only a day before Shabbat so students were able to experience the first Friday night of the trip at the Kotel (Western Wall) for Shabbat prayers. According to Baruch Lane of Queens College, NY, "There was a magnetic pull to the wall on Friday night. . . . It was the first striking feeling I had and it made me realize why I came to Israel and what I'm fighting for . . . Jerusalem cannot be divided again, it is everything."

The group explored Jerusalem from both Ammunition Hill and the Old City. On their tours, students saw both modern and historical Jerusalem, and at Ammunition Hill, they viewed a multimedia presentation showing what a divided Jerusalem looked like and how it was re-united in the 1967 Six Day War.

We also took a tour of the Knesset and sat outside of the Plenum, where Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, Danny Danon, announced the arrival of the ZOA group on the Knesset floor; a welcome that was recorded for permanent transcript.

After spending almost a week in Jerusalem, we headed off for the Shomron. First, we visited the winery in Psagot. Then we continued north to Ariel, where we toured the city with Avi Zimmerman, the director of American Friends of Ariel. Additionally, we visited the new cultural arts center, which



ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel with David Wilder in front of M'arat Hamachpela (Cave of the Patriarchs), Hebron

STUDENT LEADERSHIP MISSION TO ISRAEL

has been a recent boycott target by left-wing groups in Israel. We helped to support the local economy by purchasing lunch at different restaurants in Ariel while seeing the city. Our last stop that day in the Shomron was at Elon Moreh, where students saw the beautiful views and learned about how deeply rooted Jewish history is in the area.

Students were also exposed to the many challenges that Israel currently faces. A powerful part of the mission was a visit to the Western Negev, the site of the rocket-battered city of Sderot. In Sderot, the students were given a private tour of the city and saw hundreds of rockets on display at the town's police station. The tour also included a look-out from a hill into Gaza. The students could see where some of Gaza's Jewish communities once flourished before they were evacuated and destroyed in



ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel at the Has Promenade, Jerusalem

2005 during Israel's "disengagement" from Gaza. The hilltop view helped students appreciate the short distance the rockets from Gaza have to travel before landing and exploding in Sderot and other nearby Israeli communities. The tour had a huge impact on many students. Hallie Silvermetz of the University of Maryland, stated, "It was a clash of realities to see a playground next to a bomb shelter. . . .

While kids are trying to live, the terrorists are trying to disturb their lives as much as possible."

Not far from Sderot are Nitzan and Kibbutz Ein Tzurim where refugees from the Gush Katif expulsion are currently living. While in Nitzan, the students delivered seven full duffle bags of toys to the children in the community. It was amazing to see the reactions of both the children and the

students as the toys were presented. In the evening, the group heard from Anita Tucker in Ein Tzurim. Mrs. Tucker shared her experience as one of Gush Katif's first residents and farmers. She lived there for more than 30 years and saw the desert bloom into a vibrant Jewish home for herself and 10,000 other residents before being forced to leave. After hearing from Mrs. Tucker, Rivkah Ginat of the University of Illinois-Chicago, commented, "Her [Mrs. Tucker's] faith and optimism were very inspiring, especially after having everything ripped away."

The group returned to Judea and Samaria to spend their second Shabbat in the beautiful community of Efrat. Students stayed with host families who were quite welcoming. They also met and spoke with local residents of the town, who shared information about their lives and thoughts regarding the



ZOA students looking at Qassam rockets fired by Arab terrorists from Gaza into Sderot, Israel



University of Illinois student Daniel Cohen on a reinforced concrete jungle gym which also serves as a shelter from rockets in Sderot

STUDENT LEADERSHIP MISSION TO ISRAEL

conflict. Before leaving Efrat on Saturday night, students had the privilege of hearing from local Efrat resident, Colonel Benzi Gruber, who gave a multimedia presentation on "Ethics in the Field." The presentation debunked claims made in the Goldstone Report and showed the crises faced by IDF soldiers when fighting against terror groups, such as Hamas. When the presentation ended many students jumped at the chance to ask questions of Colonel Gruber.

In Hebron, the students took a tour with David Wilder, the English spokesperson for the community. Mr. Wilder started the tour by showing remains of the ancient walls and remnants of homes at Tel Hebron. The tour continued to the graves of biblical figures Jesse and Ruth, and also brought us to the Hadassah House museum, containing information about ancient Jewish history in the town, and about the 1929 massacre in Hebron, which took the lives of 67 innocent Jews. The tour of Hebron ended at the second most holy place for the Jewish People, the Cave of the Patriarchs, which is where Jewish patriarchs and matriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rivkah and Leah, are buried. Josh Twito of CUNY Staten Island, NY, shared his reaction, saying, "Although many feel most connected at the Kotel, my connection to this land was strongest at

the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron because we were privileged to stand beside the graves of our forefathers to whom this land was promised."

On the final day in Israel, the students went on a tour with the Keep Jerusalem organization, exploring northeastern Jerusalem neighborhoods which have been deemed "controversial," and seeing the close proximity between Arab and Jewish neighborhoods on this side of town. Among the neighborhoods visited were Pisgat Ze'ev, Atarot, Neve Yaakov, and Sheikh Jarrah (Shimon Ha-Tzaddik). It was eye-opening for students to see the neighborhoods that have been making headlines over the past year. According to Avi Davidov from Queens College, "Seeing Judea and Samaria was a great experience that showed the historical significance that the Land of Israel has to the Jewish people. Although the areas are considered to be 'controversial' on campus, I can now say that I have been there and will show my campus at large that they are not an obstacle to peace."

The ZOA 2010-2011 Student Leadership Mission was a great success! The students who had the incredible opportunity to participate are more confident now to tackle the issues on their campuses and fight against anti-Israel



Kibbutz Malkia farmer and security chief, Etan shows CUNY Queens student Avi Davidov a Qassam rocket that was fired by Hezbollah terrorists and exploded in the kibbutz during the Second Lebanon War

propaganda. As Daniel Cohen, from the University of Illinois said, "ZOA provides a core response to many issues that pro-Israel activists face on campus and a foundation for their own development as Zionist

leaders." The ZOA Campus Department will continue working with these students on their campuses to help them and their fellow students strongly and effectively advocate for Israel.



ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel standing before a menorah made of Qassam rockets at the Hesder Yeshiva in Sderot



Carl Freyer
Sylvia Freyer

Last

September, a stalwart of Zionism and major ZOA supporter, Carl (Yosef) Freyer, passed away at the age of 90 while en route to Israel aboard an El Al flight. In the words of Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald, Director of the National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP), Carl Freyer was a “Lion of Judah,” an “irreplaceable and irrepressible Jew.” Together with his wife Sylvia, another stalwart of American Zionism, Carl, who was also a ZOA Board Member, was an immensely dedicated supporter of the causes of Zionism and Jewish education.

Carl was raised in the staunchly Jewish environs of Brooklyn while Sylvia grew up in the solidly Jewish milieu of the Bronx. In early 1994, Carl heard Mort Klein deliver the keynote speech at an Emunah Dinner in New York City. Carl was excited to learn that ZOA had similar views to his own. Both understood the dangers of concluding agreements with Yasser Arafat and the Oslo peace process. Carl was so impressed with the principled campaign of the ZOA to enlighten American Jewish and wider public opinion as to the dangers of the Oslo accords that, without even having been introduced to Klein, he started to become a substantial donor to the ZOA.

One of the first things Carl undertook after the start of the Oslo process was to organize and fund the Israel Day Concert in New York City’s Central Park. The Israel Day Concerts can be accurately described as the first regular Jewish communal event in the history of Central Park. Ariel Sharon attended the first of the concerts and each year since, the concert has attracted at least 10,000 people. Topical themes – missing MIAs like Ron Arad, kidnapped soldiers like Gilad Shalit, the continuing imprisonment of Jonathan Pollard – were constantly devised by Carl for each concert and were resoundingly successful. The Israel Day Concert is one of the very few types of Jewish communal activities that reach this level of involvement. It has become a major rallying point for opposition to the concessionary and failed Oslo policies and a fixture on the New York cultural scene.



**Carl Freyer and Sylvia Freyer at last year's
ZOA Herzl-Brandeis Award Dinner**

Within Israel, the Freyers have given unstinting support to the Jewish communities of Judea and Samaria, including funding the costs of transporting community members to demonstrate and express concern about one-sided, Israeli concessions, such as the Gaza withdrawal. They have also faithfully supported Arutz Sheva (Israel National News) and the city of Beth El. The uprooting of the Gaza communities was an especially harsh blow for them.

The Freyers also have supported a range of other Zionist and Jewish causes. Carl had a particular passion for bringing alienated Jews back to Jewish life and for looking further afield to retrieve the far-flung lost tribes. It was for this purpose that the Freyers established a special school program for children with little or no Jewish educational background, the Jewish Youth Encounter Program (JYEP). The Freyers have also been faithful, strong supporters of Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald and his extraordinarily successful National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP). Commenced in 1987, NJOP today, thanks to the Freyers’ unswerving support, is educating Jews in over

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Wikileaks Shows Obama Intentionally Misled Israel When Claiming Israeli Concessions Needed for Arabs to Confront Iran

We now know that President Barack Hussein Obama apparently intentionally misled Israel when demanding that Israel must make substantial one-sided concessions to the Palestinian Authority in order to gain support from the Arab nations to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons.

This above-stated fact is screaming from the pages of the recently released 250,000 diplomatic cables by the whistle-blowing organization, Wikileaks. These leaked documents reveal that the leaders of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States are insistent on stopping Iran's nuclear program above any other consideration, including the Israel-Palestinian Arab situation.

These diplomatic cables also prove that President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton knew from the outset that there was no link between the Israel-Palestinian Arab conflict and obtaining Arab support for the toughest possible sanctions and even military action against Iran.

It is deeply troubling to go back and read President Obama's public statement to Israel about Iran when he said, "If there is a linkage between Iran and the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, I personally believe it actually runs the other way. To the extent that we can make peace with the Palestinians – between the Palestinians and the Israelis – then I actually think it strengthens our hand in the international community in dealing with a potential Iranian threat."

Obama and Clinton repeatedly insisted that it is necessary to first deal with the Palestinian issue as the way to stop Iran. This never made sense – now we see that it also contradicted the specific information Obama received from his own U.S. officials.

Now we know that President Obama was repeatedly urged by many Arab leaders to destroy the Iranian nuclear program they feared – that was their primary concern and priority, not strengthening Abbas and the PA and pressuring Israel.

- Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah didn't mention the Palestinians but pleaded with Obama to "cut off the head of the [Iranian] snake."

- The King of Bahrain told the U.S. the Iranian nuclear program "must be stopped." Later he added, "The danger of letting it go on is greater than the danger of stopping it."
- The United Arab Emirates defense chief Crown Prince Mohammed Bin-Zayed of Abu Dhabi told U.S. General John Abizaid the U.S. needs to take action against Iran, "this year or next...Ahmadinejad is Hitler."
- Egypt's then-President Hosni Mubarak said the Iranians are "big fat liars."
- Qatar's Emir Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, "had told the Israelis in October 2006 that he believed Iran was determined to develop a nuclear bomb no matter the cost." Israeli diplomats told their U.S. counterparts "Hamad complained at the time that he felt the U.S. would not listen to him and tended to believe what it heard from Iran."

Jerusalem Post editor David Horowitz wrote [12-1-10], "Obama was not the prisoner of a misconception, convinced in absolute good faith that if he could deliver Israeli concessions at the negotiating table he might stand a greater chance of getting the Arabs on board for the battle with the mullahs. No, he had the diplomatic cables to prove that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was no obstacle to wide Arab backing, indeed wide Arab entreaties, for the toughest possible measures against Iran, emphatically including military action... Obama had internalized full well that he didn't actually need the cover of a substantive Israeli-Palestinian peace process to generate Arab support for tackling Iran's nuclear program, but chose to pressure Israel just the same, as a tactic, because he felt Israel was not being sufficiently forthcoming on the Palestinian front... It is not fair to indicate to the Israeli prime minister, when it's patently untrue, that he ought to put aside some of his skepticism and take risks for peace because otherwise Israel might impede the U.S.'s capacity to thwart the genocidal enemy, Iran."

Whatever the wider repercussions of the WikiLeaks cable deluge, it has exposed the hypocrisy of those Arab leaders who publicly blame Israel for their woes while privately pleading for military measures to thwart their true enemy, Iran. And it has exposed the incompetence, too, or malice, of the analysts who took those Arab leaders' public utterances at face value, and utilized them in a bid to ratchet up pressure on, and to besmirch, Israel.

One of the many deeper questions people should be asking of President Obama is, despite the clear evidence available to him, why did he recklessly waste time and resources pretending that there is some semblance of a diplomatic "link" between the "peace process" and the Iranian nuclear threat?

We can see from these leaks that the Obama administration has been cynically using the Iranian nuclear issue as

a tool for extracting concessions from Israel, knowing all the while that such concessions bear no relation whatsoever to regional support for confronting Iran. The clear vision of the Arab states is of the threat that Iran poses to them, and their greatest desire is to end that threat.

These cables increase the validity of many analysts' and journalists' views who state that President Obama may be the most hostile president to Israel, ever.

Abbas Vows: No Room For Jews In Palestinian State

Palestinian Authority (PA) president Mahmoud Abbas has reiterated that a future Palestinian state, if established, will be Jew-free, saying, "We have frankly said, and always will say: If there is an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, we won't agree to the presence of one Israeli in it ... when a Palestinian state is established, it would have no Israeli presence in it" (Khaled Abu Toameh, "Abbas vows: No room for Israelis in Palestinian state," Jerusalem Post, December 25, 2010).

Abbas' Fatah-dominated PA, as well as leading Palestinian figures, including those often mistakenly regarded in the West as moderates, have insisted that a future Palestinian state must be judenrein and all Jews currently living in communities in Judea and Samaria must be uprooted:

- Saeb Erekat, senior Fatah/PA official, former PA foreign minister: "...nobody should agree to Israeli settlers remaining in the Palestinian [state]" (MEMRI: Saeb Erekat: "Over the Years, Israel Has Gradually Withdrawn from Its Positions; Therefore, We Have No Reason to Hurry," Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI), July 13, 2009).
- Ahmed Qurei, former PA prime minister and former PA senior negotiator: "There can be no peace with the presence of these settlement blocs in the West Bank ... the settlers are dangerous and ... it's impossible to live with them ... Peace can be achieved only if Israel withdraws to the last centimeter of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967" (Khaled Abu Toameh, "Qurei: No room for Jews in West Bank," Jerusalem Post, December 13, 2008).
- Dr. Sari Nusseibeh, the Dean of Al-Quds University, widely touted as a Palestinian moderate: "The Israelis now living in the territories of the future Palestinian state should

return to living within the borders of the state of Israel. No Jew in the world, now or in the future ... will have the right to return, to live, or to demand to live in Hebron, in East Jerusalem, or anywhere in the Palestinian state ... What's wrong with Taibeh [an Arab city in Israel], for example, being an integral part of an Arab Palestinian state? ... Jaffa [part of Tel Aviv] too" (Interview, Al-Jazeera TV, November 30, 2007, translation courtesy of Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI)).

The Palestinian demand for a Jew-free state is not only obscene and anti-Semitic in itself, but it exposes their rejection of Israel as a Jewish state and thus the reason for the absence of peace. They refuse to accept the truth of the Jewish religious, legal and historical connection to Israel and thus the right of Jews to have their own state in their biblical homeland.

Dalia Rabin: My Father, Yitzhak Rabin, Might Have Stopped Oslo

Remarks made recently by Dalia Rabin, daughter of slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, as well as Mr. Rabin's last Knesset speech, both indicate that Yitzhak Rabin had serious misgivings about the direction of the Oslo process that he'd launched and that he would have stopped it or at least taken it in a different direction from the one taken by subsequent Israeli leaders.

Interviewed in the Israeli daily *Yediot Ahronot* on October 8, 2010, Dalia Rabin said, "Many people who were close to father told me that on the eve of the murder he considered stopping the Oslo process because of the terror that was running rampant in the streets and that Arafat wasn't delivering the goods. Father after all wasn't a blind man running forward without thought. I don't rule out the possibility that he considered also doing a reverse on our side. After all he was someone for whom the security of the state was sacrosanct. So they say that Oslo brought Arafat and gave them rifles and caused the intifada. But historical processes develop, change and flow. It is impossible to take a person murdered in '95 and judge him according to what happened in 2000."



Facing A Challenging 2011

Although daily life in Israel outwardly appears to be proceeding with little if any disruption, many Israeli leaders tell us they anticipate a challenging 2011. ZOA Israel continues to press them to articulate a coherent foreign policy that encompasses the broader picture, and to openly expose the truth of Mahmoud Abbas and the PA's anti-Israel, pro-terrorism actions. And we emphasize to leadership and the grassroots alike—most of whom do not read English language press releases and U.S. media reports—the one essential message that bears repeating: The overwhelming majority of Congress and the American public stand solidly behind Israel even if it has to make hard decisions that are contrary to U.S. administration expectations.

Tackling New And Continuing Themes

Watchful of the changing political landscape while looking for new ways to tackle ongoing themes, ZOA Israel is concentrating its efforts in five key areas:

Knesset Advocacy: While citing the latest examples of Palestinian intransigence and incitement, we also are underscoring repeated attempts by Palestinian Authority (PA) officials to undermine Israel by spreading lies such as Defense Forces “atrocities” stories; pushing anti-Israel resolutions at the UN; actively lobbying the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development against Israel; instigating boycotts, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel; and misrepresenting Israeli intentions with the U.S. administration and the European Union. Our office is beginning to look at the stealth Arabization of Jewish Israel, with land grabs in the Galilee and Negev, especially.

We continue to bolster the work of Knesset members asking Israeli leadership to explicitly state the non-negotiable red lines; to just say “No,” for example, to PA unilateralism, indefensible borders, foreign interventions in Israel's security, “right of return” claims, racist proposals lim-

iting Jewish residence, and the division of Jerusalem. We also are encouraging Knesset members to voice their concern to U.S. congressional counterparts about the interference of USAID, a significant funder of the Geneva Initiative, in Israel's internal political affairs. MKs periodically approach us to help them communicate with U.S. legislators. Recent examples include crafting a letter for Deputy Minister Ayoub Kara to former Ambassador John Bolton and others about Israeli withdrawal from a section of Gajhar, on Israel's northern border; and facilitating a growing movement to affirm Jerusalem's Jewish sovereignty.

Public Diplomacy: The Israel Office is promoting a more vigorous hasbara campaign to make Israel's case abroad, as assaults on its legitimacy persist and widen. We continue to argue that firm and consistent pronouncements about Israel's long term security needs and national rights are necessary, and that Israel must convey that Iran is a huge danger that threatens not only Israel, but Europe and the United States as well.



Jeff Daube
Director, ZOA Israel

Officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), the Ministry of Hasbara and Diaspora Affairs and other Israel advocacy organizations are all benefiting from our input. Ismail Khaldi, Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman's policy advisor and the highest ranking Bedouin diplomat, who served as deputy consul general in San Francisco, supports our efforts to upgrade Israel's public messaging.

With ZOA Israel's urging, the MFA brought together the Israel represen-

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tatives of various foreign organizations to kick off a coordination of activities. The full day seminar covered many topics, including BDS, Israel branding, and perceptions about what constitutes a war crime. Already there has been follow-up, and other meetings are anticipated.

At the Knesset, the Israel Office has been encouraging articulate English-speaking national camp MKs to present Israel's core positions on Capitol Hill. With his appointment to chair the Absorption, Immigration and Diaspora Affairs Committee, MK Danny Danon, a close friend of ZOA, invited us to hearings on the public diplomacy crisis where we reiterated our suggestions for a concerted new hasbara approach. Steve Goldberg, Vice Chairman of the ZOA's Board of Directors, spoke at these hearings with great passion in favor of Israeli resolve—American Jewish leadership cannot confidently implement its supporting role otherwise.

U.S. Jerusalem Consulate: Catalyzed by the Samaria Regional Council's request for our involvement, ZOA Israel has appealed to the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem for U.S. funding of coexistence initiatives. The Consulate is operating as the de facto U.S. embassy for the PA, reporting on the affairs of Judea, Samaria and Jerusalem. ZOA Israel

has opened dialogue with consulate professionals and achieved some consideration for our perspective. The consulate has admitted to us that its image among American Israelis needs improvement.

Most recently, the Israel Office raised a red flag regarding consulate collusion with Peace Now to surreptitiously photograph Shomron communities. After objecting and requesting equal time for other information providers, we obtained the consulate's consent to organize briefings on Jewish and Arab life in Judea and Samaria for consulate staff, this time presented by a reputed national camp NGO.

ZOA Israel also sent a letter to the consul general, copied to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and others, regarding the ongoing abuse of mourners and gravesites on the Mount of Olives—highlighting the fact that so many of the deceased and visitors are Americans. We asked consulate officials to speak out against these depredations and to also demand condemnation from Arab leadership. In a follow-up meeting, the consulate's political and religious officers agreed to investigate and attend an on-site briefing that we arranged for them. However, after the consulate insisted on several unreasonable preconditions, we con-

ducted an off-site meeting instead.

United Jerusalem: The Palestinians understand that denying Israel's claim to Jerusalem, especially its biblical and historical roots, is an effective strategy for undermining national spirit and determination. Several organizations that are hostile to Israel, and well-funded by European governments and the likes of the New Israel Fund, skillfully contribute to this Palestinian goal of attenuated Jewish attachment. ZOA Israel therefore has invested many hours helping pro-Israel organizations to counterbalance such efforts in kind; for example, "Keep Jerusalem-Im Eshkachech," a unified Jerusalem project that provides on-site briefings along the eastern Jerusalem periphery for Israeli and foreign visitors, opinion-makers and leadership. Beit Yonatan (named for Jonathan Pollard) on the site of a pre-State Yemenite village in the eastern Jerusalem neighborhood of Shiloach/Silwan is home to a religious study hall and seven Jewish families who claim to have purchased the property lawfully. At the request of the Jerusalem Reclamation Project, the ZOA Israel Office agreed to assist efforts to help Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat resist the pressure, including from certain Members of Congress, to seal the residence. This

is nothing less than anti-Jewish discrimination: 90% of the homes in Shiloach – 20,000 Arab-occupied illegal structures, according to the Jerusalem Municipality – remain unchallenged.

Campus Outreach: ZOA Israel is working with Israel Academia Monitor, Im Tirzu and campus activists to combat anti-Israel rhetoric. Professor Martin Sherman of Tel Aviv University has been particularly helpful as we continue to monitor Israeli campuses where Israeli and visiting American students are being influenced by anti-Zionist propaganda. In response to the upcoming establishment of J Street U in Jerusalem, ZOA Israel is bringing interested parties together to minimize their impact.

In addition, the Israel Office regularly communicates with associates in the U.S. to ensure that Israeli officials make savvy choices about speaker venues and sponsors. Recently, we took this up with MFA staff and Hasbara/Diaspora Affairs Minister Yuli Edelstein, concerning an event sponsored by the University of California, Irvine's Olive Tree Initiative—whose goal, we believe, was to exploit the presence of an Israeli official in order to disguise an anti-Israel agenda.

Thanks to the teamwork of ZOA Israel, the ZOA's Campus Department and

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Keshet Tours, ZOA's 2010 student mission to Israel was an "amazing experience" (student quote), and included presentations by Vice Prime Minister Moshe Ya'alon, MKs Danny Danon and Arie' Eldad, Ambassador Dore Gold, World Jewish Congress Secretary General Dan Diker, Palestinian Media Watch's Itamar Marcus, and the Jerusalem Post's Khaled Abu Toameh, among others. ZOA Campus Coordinators Sharona Whisler and Jason Holtzman led the outstanding contingent of several dozen students through a jam-packed itinerary, which included eastern Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the Jordan Valley and the Golan approached from a perspective rarely seen by other visiting students.

Additional Highlights

Palestinian State Alternatives: After a brief lull, the conversation about alternatives to Palestinian statehood and the usual two-state formula has started to regain momentum. To widen the discussion, ZOA Israel is actively developing a go-to network comprised of like-minded leaders, especially the fourteen MKs who have joined the Land of Israel lobby, and activist citizen groups; in particular Mattot Arim and Motza, are two grassroots movements aiming to prevent further withdrawals and risky con-

cessions, and promoting a new nationalist vision and course for Israel.

Construction Freeze:

ZOA Israel organized two busloads of participants, including reporters and photographers, for a Shomron tour and mass rally in Revava to mark the end of the freeze. We continue to oppose extending the freeze in any form, and we regularly point to unauthorized PA construction, which forges ahead unimpeded while the international community focuses single-mindedly on Israel.

Mt. of Olives Cemetery:

With the deteriorating situation on the Mount of Olives, the Israel Office is petitioning Israeli leadership to provide security cameras, fencing and adequate police protection, and to arrest the offending parties. MK Danon has agreed to support this effort. This is not just about a cemetery disgrace: Besides emphasizing the risk inherent in Palestinian control of Jewish holy sites, our objective is to remind Israelis and allied Americans not to send a message of indifference as our adversaries meantime make claims of their own.

Opposition Activities:

ZOA Israel regularly attends the programs of anti-Israel NGOs in order to challenge them where appropriate, develop an effective response and dimin-

ish their influence. Recent examples include Ir Amim's "divide Jerusalem" tours, and community presentations by J Street U, the New Israel Fund, the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, the Truman Institute and the Israel-Palestine Center for Research and Information. We also played an important role in the Knesset call to investigate radical local organizations (B'tselem, Machsom Watch, Breaking the Silence, Peace Now, Adallah and others) whose anti-Israel activities are illegitimately funded by non-Israeli sources.

Twinning:

The Israel Office made the connection between ZOA's Philadelphia chapter and officials of the Shomron city of Ariel. Planning has begun for linking schools in the two communities and mentoring aliyah-oriented families. In addition, having introduced the D.C. chapter to the dynamic new community of Maskiot in the Jordan Valley, we are discussing ways for ZOA to actively assist in its growth.

Christian Ties:

ZOA Israel continues to develop its relationship with the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem. During their Feast of the Tabernacles celebration, we led a tour of Christian Zionist visitors throughout the Shomron which they found instructive and meaningful.

Carmel Fire Aftermath:

With embers still smoking, ZOA Israel was on the scene with Deputy Minister Ayoub Kara for a survey of the devastation and a discussion of its impact on the loyal Druze communities of Usifiyeh and Dalyat al Carmel. The following week, ZOA Israel took the lead and, with the International Young Israel Movement, organized an intensive briefing in the north for 18 leaders representing various organizations concerning the area's rehabilitation needs.

Media Connections

- Jeff Daube's "Deep Freeze Now or Mideast Meltdown Later" was published by the *Jerusalem Post* and picked up in the blogosphere.
- Interviewed by *Israel Broadcasting Authority's* (IBA) Elie Wohlgerlanter about U.S. administration pressure to extend the construction freeze.
- Interviewed and quoted by the *Jerusalem Post's* Gil Hoffman about the Yesha Council campaign to remove Obama pressure to continue the freeze just before its end.
- Provided running commentary for international reporters and photographers on a ZOA Israel-led Shomron trip, including Matthew Kalman of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Nicolas Pelham of

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The *Economist*, and Virve Kahkonen of *Helsingin Sanomat*, Scandinavia's largest newspaper.

- Arranged IBA coverage for a ZOA/Young Israel leadership mission in northern Israel after the fire.
- Interviewed by news analyst Carrie Bristol of *Network Global News* on a range of political subjects, especially how Israel relates to the Middle East and the international community. Mentioned in *The Jewish Standard* and pictured in *Mishpacha* magazine in connection with our Mt. of Olives cemetery campaign.
- Interviewed and quoted by *Yisrael Hayom* columnist Nadav Shragai regarding Israel Office engagement with the U.S. Jerusalem Consulate.
- Quoted in *Maariv*/NRG

article following the U.S. Consulate's use of Peace Now's Settlement Watch to spy on the Shomron communities.

- Helped Gloria Greenfield, producer of *The Case for Israel*, to obtain interviews for her new film about assaults on Israel's legitimacy.
- Introduced *Jerusalem Post* political and Knesset reporters, Gil Hoffman and Rebecca Stoil respectively, to the Keep Jerusalem project and its briefing tours around eastern Jerusalem.
- Submitted several published letters to the *Jerusalem Post* on a range of security related subjects.
- Ongoing commentary and information on the issues of the day to help several Israeli columnists and bloggers, and op-ed and letter writers.

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GIVE ONE DAY OF YOUR LIFE FOR ISRAEL
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ZOA PEOPLE

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39 countries. In 2000, NJOP awarded the Freyers its Special Service Award in recognition of the achievements of JYEP. In 2010, NJOP renamed its Young Leadership Award the Carl & Sylvia Freyer Young Leadership Award.

As Joe Frager, who worked with Carl and Sylvia on so many causes, observes, "Carl had great love for Israel and Jews, he thought we

had to go and get our people back to Judaism, both those lost from the tribe and also Jews who are lost as part of the tribe ... Carl Freyer was the epitome of Zionism. He couldn't do more to help the people and land of Israel; he spent the last 20 years doing the heavy lifting that others were afraid to do, when Jewish organizations had abdicated responsibility."

Rabbi Buchwald praised Carl and Sylvia's teamwork,

"Even though they were only two individuals, they constituted a virtual army that served as a powerful bulwark in defense of the State of Israel." Joe Frager describes Sylvia as "the practical person – the one who made it all happen."

When their grown daughters, Louisa and Maura, went to study in Israel, the Freyers became regular visitors to the country and remained so for over thirty years. Today,

their daughters, their sons-in-law, Rabbi Yehuda Susman and Adam Ruskin, and twelve grandchildren live in Israel.

Sylvia says of Mort Klein, "He is the most important man in America – if not for Mort and Carl, I don't know where the Jewish people would be. They worked hand-in-hand. The ZOA is different from the other Jewish organizations. It has worked always to defend Zionism."



ZOA Pittsburgh District

Among the most exciting programs offered by the ZOA-Pittsburgh District this past year was its Ministers Delegation to Israel, especially designed for non-Jewish clergy to travel to Israel, meet with Israeli citizens and political leaders, learn the truth about the Arab-Israeli conflict, and visit Israel's borders. Ten ministers from Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania spent a week in Israel, enjoying a full itinerary organized by the ZOA. They traveled to the Golan Heights, learning about security and water issues. They lunched with a family at their home in Nimrod Village, and visited Kibbutz Malkiya, planting a Kiwi tree and meeting with Israeli soldiers guarding Israel's border with Lebanon. They visited the embattled town of Sderot, which has endured thousands of missiles fired from Gaza. And they stopped in Ma'ale Adumim for a home hospitality program with Ethiopian Jewish immigrants.

The ZOA group had private meetings with a Roman Catholic priest in Nazareth; Ayoob Kara, a Druze Knesset member; David Parsons of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem; Itamar Marcus of Palestinian Media Watch; and Efrat's Senior Rabbi Shlomo Riskin. The ministers visited Jewish, Christian and Muslim religious sites, and toured Hadassah Hospital. Everyone in the delegation described the trip as extraordinary and transformative. The ministers said that the Israel they saw was so different from the Israel portrayed in the media. They returned to the United States enlightened and supportive of Israel and its people.

This year's annual Awards event took place at Congregation Beth Shalom. Over 200 people, including ZOA National President Morton A. Klein, attended the Tribute Dinner honoring three deserving Pittsburghers: Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, Marion Taube and Harold F. Marcus.

Marian Ungar Davis, a former president of the ZOA-Pittsburgh District and a former national board member, presented Marion Taube with the ZOA Natalie E. Novick Community Leadership Award. This award is given to the individual who best represents the spirit of community leadership in Jewish and humanitarian causes. Harold F. Marcus received the ZOA Israel Service Award. It is given to those individuals with strong leadership, ethics and results-driven qualities, who have a passion for the Jewish homeland.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of ZOA's Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Cyril H. Wecht. A "celebrity roast" of Dr. Wecht replaced the traditional tribute. Mort Klein roasted not only the honoree, but also the other "roasters" as well, showing he may have a future as a standup comic. The night was filled with laughter and celebration.

Looking forward, the Pittsburgh District intends to revive the ZOA Intolerance Program, which includes classroom instruction and reading materials for students. The program culminates with a trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. During its initial run from 1999 to 2005, 3506 students from the City of Pittsburgh Public Schools and Pittsburgh Catholic Diocese Schools participated, along with 536 teachers, parents and ZOA members who chaperoned the trip.

ZOA Philadelphia District

The Greater Philadelphia District hosted ZOA campus coordinators Sharona Whisler and David Kadosh as guest speakers at our fall quarterly meeting. Sharona and David explained the challenges facing young supporters of Israel at universities today, and the substantial steps ZOA is taking to make a difference. The audience was impressed by what our organization is doing on the campuses.

Our upcoming winter meeting will feature guest speaker Erick Stakelbeck, who covers terrorism and the Middle East for the Christian Broadcasting Network.

Philadelphia ZOA is once again co-sponsoring Aish HaTorah's annual Israel event. This year, the event will premiere



Pittsburgh Ministers Delegation in Jerusalem. At left end of the banner is Stuart Pavlack, Executive Director of ZOA's Pittsburgh office. Right end of the banner: Jeff Daube, Executive Director of ZOA Israel.

ZOA AROUND THE COUNTRY

the documentary *Iranium*, which addresses Iran's nuclear ambitions and the threat to the West. The event will also feature a talk by former CIA director James Woolsey.

Philadelphia is planning a gala to honor pro-Israel talk radio host Dom Giordano. We will present him with a local version of the Ben Hecht Journalism Award. Separately, we are planning an event to introduce people to the wines and cheeses of Israel as part of our continuing "Buy Israel" project.

Philadelphia ZOA leaders and members continue to have articles and letters published in local and national newspapers, as well as in important Internet journals.

Philadelphia ZOA has started its twinning project with the city of Ariel. We arranged meetings between Ariel representative Avi Zimmerman and prominent congregation rabbis who are also members of our board, as well as educators from several area Jewish day schools. We hope to have this project operating this year with programs to introduce the two communities to one another.

ZOA Michigan Region

In the fall, the ZOA-Michigan region opened its two-part, Special Forum on Campus Anti-Semitism, Harassment, Intimidation, and Discrimination, with some 200 people attending each forum session. Kenneth L. Marcus, Director of the Initiative on Anti-Semitism at the Institute for Jewish & Community Research, and the former head of the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, opened the forum in October. Mr. Marcus' lecture was based on his recent essay, "A Blind Eye to Campus Anti-Semitism" (*Commentary*, September 2010) and his research for his recent book, *Jewish Identity and Civil Rights in America*.

In December, our own Susan Tuchman, Esq., Director of the ZOA's Center for Law and Justice, was the keynote speaker at our second forum session. The forum featured a panel of deans and senior officials from several state public universities with significant Jewish enrollment and Jewish alumni: Michigan State University, Oakland University, University of Michigan, and Wayne State University. A number of parents and current and former students dominated the one-hour question-and-answer session with the university representatives, raising examples of intimidat-

tion of Jewish students on campus. The forum received excellent coverage in the *Detroit News* and the *Detroit Jewish News*, both before and after Susan Tuchman's presentation and Kenneth Marcus' lecture. Susan also made a presentation to a group of high school students at the Frankel Jewish Academy.

In October, the ZOA-Michigan region helped organize and co-sponsored an election forum with U.S. Representative Gary Peters and challenger Andrew "Rocky" Raczkowski. There was a turnout of 350 people and Israel-related issues dominated the discussion.

On November 10th, the ZOA-Michigan region sponsored the book, *Balfour Declaration-The Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict* by Jonathan Schneer, at the Detroit Jewish book fair.

ZOA members have been active letter-writers to both the local and national media on issues of relevance to Israel and the community. In particular, we commented on the withdrawal of the Helen Thomas award at Wayne State University based on Thomas' anti-Semitic statements.

Our major fundraiser of the year — the 77th Annual Balfour Celebration, at which we honored Ophelia and Leonard Herman with the Justice Louis D. Brandeis Award — was a great success. Leonard is a past president of the ZOA-Michigan region. Entertainment for the evening was provided by three of our outstanding local cantors, Meir Finklestein, Daniel Gross and Michael Smolash, who sang a selection of Hebrew and Yiddish melodies.

ZOA Western Region

Dr. Shelley Ventura-Cohen, Executive Director of ZOA's Western Region, has had a busy few months. She brought in an impressive array of distinguished pro-Israel speakers who spoke to ZOA and the greater Los Angeles community.

They included: Deputy Speaker of the Israeli Knesset, Danny Danon; Member of Knesset, Tzipi Hotovely; Israeli Consul General (West Coast), Jacob Dayan; Member of Knesset, General Uzi Dayan; Anita Tucker, former resident of Jewish neighborhoods in Gaza; Deputy Director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Professor Abraham Sion, Ariel University.

Mort Klein also gave several speeches in L.A.

AROUND THE COUNTRY WITH MORTON KLEIN



U.S. Cong. Allen West (R-FL) delivers remarks at ZOA event

PHOTO CREDIT: MORT KLEIN

considered an American priority interest by members of her party.

Interview with South Florida Sun-Sentinel

Mort Klein was interviewed by the South Florida *Sun-Sentinel* for a feature article about ZOA's successful efforts to protect Jewish students on campus from harassment, intimidation and discrimination under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. The article was very complimentary and the local ZOA office immediately received responses of praise from the community.

Meeting with former Florida House Majority Leader Adam Hasner

Mort Klein and Florida Region Executive Director Joe Sabag met with former Florida House Majority Leader Adam Hasner. Prior to joining ZOA, Joe worked for Hasner as a speech writer and policy advisor. Over the last 8 years Rep. Hasner has proven to be one of the most dynamic state-level pro-Israel politicians in the country. For a time, Hasner was the only Jewish Republican State House Majority Leader in the country. Hasner worked closely with Congressman Ted Deutch as the Florida House of

Representatives' sponsor of 2007's Iran divestment legislation, among many other important pro-Israel accomplishments. He expressed his strong support for ZOA's policy positions and advocacy. Rep. Hasner is expected to be the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate.

ZOA event with Southwest Florida Chapter in Naples

Mort Klein spoke to ZOA's new Southwest Florida Chapter in Naples, with over 75 people in attendance. The Southwest Florida chapter is headed by Mr. Jerry Sobel, a longtime member of ZOA's Sarasota chapter. The Southwest Florida chapter began meeting monthly in October, 2010 and now consists of over 30 members.

Mort delivered a powerful lecture focusing on the Arab war against Israel, and made terrific use of a variety of documents, pictures and maps to make his points. The meeting received extensive coverage from local media and was attended by local rabbis and community leaders. Mr. Sobel and the Florida Region Office received positive feedback on the event. Several attendees have already asked Mort to speak at their respective synagogues.

Mort also was interviewed on the Joyce Kaufman radio

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one of his most important bridges to the pro-Israel and Jewish communities.

Congressman West's remarks can be described as nothing short of awe inspiring, and demonstrated a superior understanding of the issues that both America and Israel face. His support for Israel could not have been expressed in stronger terms. In praising his honesty and realism, Mort described Congressman West as "truly rare."

Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Chair of the

powerful House Foreign Affairs Committee, was unable to attend at the last minute and instead submitted her remarks via video messaging. The Congresswoman is herself one of the strongest pro-Israel leaders in the world, as well as a long-time friend of ZOA. She delivered powerful remarks on the uncompromising leadership she will offer in support and defense of Israel in her position. As a leading member among Congressional Republicans, she also assured that Israel is

AROUND THE COUNTRY WITH MORTON KLEIN



U.S. Congs. Deutch (D-FL) & West (R-FL) with ZOA President Morton Klein, Dr. Jerry Kaufman and Katz Family Members

PHOTO CREDIT: MORT KLEIN

Mizner. The Club is one of the few remaining which continues to discriminate against Jews. The irony of having a group of Jewish leaders gather to talk about strengthening support for Israel just a few feet away from such a place was palpable.

While in South Florida, Morton also had meetings with several other significant present and potential donors. They included Dr. Edward Steinberg in his office in Palm Beach; Mr. Robert Lappin a renowned philanthropist, at the historic Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach; Mr. William Langfan at the Four Seasons Hotel in Palm Beach; and Mr. Ron Kranzer at the Boca Rio Club in Boca Raton, among others.

Appearance on Tuesday Night Live from Jerusalem TV Show

Mort Klein appeared on the Tuesday Night Live from Jerusalem television program. The program is the #1 rated English language show in Israel. Its hosts, Jeremy Gimpel and Ari Abramowitz, both in their early 30's, are two of the most dynamic young Zionists of their generation. The premise of the show is to present a positive image of Zionism and Israel by highlighting various aspects of Jewish and Israeli culture.

Mort Klein received a

show. The show has an estimated average weekly listening audience of 150,000 listeners. Kaufman said that ZOA is the only Jewish organization that she would permit on her show.

Scholar in Residence at Boca Raton Synagogue

Mort Klein was the scholar-in-residence at the Boca Raton Synagogue (BRS). BRS is one of the largest and most prestigious Orthodox synagogues in Florida. Mort delivered a lecture titled "Obama and Israel." Mort spoke about President Obama's long time friendships, his appointments that affect Israel, his speeches and his policies. Mort received an

overwhelmingly positive response. One person said "I wish there were 10 ZOA's." Immediately after Shabbat, the Florida Region Office began receiving emails and calls expressing appreciation for Mort's sharp and honest appraisal of President Obama's impact on U.S.-Israel relations.

Meetings with Present and Potential Donors

Mort Klein and Joe Sabag were hosted for lunch at the oceanfront home of distinguished businessman Jeffrey Greene in Palm Beach. Mr. Greene is a member of the prestigious Forbes 400 list of wealthy Americans—four other members of this list are

already ZOA donors. Mr. Greene recently ran as a Democrat candidate for U.S. Senate in Florida. Joe Sabag served as a policy advisor to Greene's campaign, which took many strong positions on Israel. Mort Klein was pleasantly surprised to find that a friend, Rabbi David Baron of Los Angeles, California, a long time friend of Mr. Greene, had been invited to lunch as well.

They expressed their appreciation of ZOA's realistic approach to various issues, and offered to get more involved.

Greene lives in a historic estate home next door to the Palm Beach Bath and Tennis Club, both of which were designed by the famed architect, Addison

AROUND THE COUNTRY WITH MORTON KLEIN

Defender of Israel award along with Joyce Kaufman and Walid Shoebat, a former terrorist turned avid pro-Israel advocate. Israel's deputy consul general to Florida, Mr. Paul Hirschson, spoke, along with Jackie Mason by video.

Mort was interviewed in front of a studio audience of more than 1200 people. Mort's interview focused on these three questions: "What is the biggest misconception that people in America have about Israel that you would like to set straight?" "What is the most pressing need Israel faces today?" "What can the pro-Israel community in America do to help?" Mort offered responses explaining the myth of "occupation" and the need for supporters of Israel to be well informed. His remarks were received with strong applause.

Speeches in LA

Mort Klein also gave many speeches in Los Angeles, all of which were regularly interspersed with much appreciated and well-received humor, making the gravity of the topics much easier to deal with.

The first one took place on Saturday, Dec. 11th during Shabbat services at the beautifully adorned Sephardic Temple. Mort's topic was: "Israel & the Palestinians-Is Peace Possible?"

Mort spoke on a simi-

lar theme at the Temple's "Lunch & Learn" where he answered questions for over an hour and a half.

The third talk was given on Sunday, December 12th in Beverly Hills at the elegant and luxurious home of ZOA's National Board Member, prominent attorney and political activist, Sandra Stein. Sandra generously served a delicious brunch before Mort spoke about the ZOA's history and its recent goals and accomplishments.

The fourth event was held on December 13th at the magnificent home of a long time and enthusiastic ZOA supporter in Brentwood, California. Mort's topic that evening was: "Obama & Israel."

Mort examined every aspect of Obama in relation to Israel. He described Obama's associations and collaborations, before he became President, with Israel-bashers such as Jeremiah Wright, Louis Farrakhan, Rashid Khalidi, Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton, and Ali Abunimah. Recently Rashid Khalidi, a professor of Middle Eastern Studies at Columbia University, with the help of Bill Ayers and his wife, Bernardine Dohrn, who live near Obama in Chicago and with whom he was friends, attempted to organize a second flotilla to Gaza.

Mort showed how these people influenced Obama's opinions and beliefs which,

in turn, helped to form his policies towards Israel. It was disturbing, Mort noted, how so many people who are well known for having anti-Israel positions have been appointed to important political posts affecting Israel as advisors in Obama's administration. Mort also described in detail Obama's strongly hostile speeches about Israel given in Cairo and before the United Nations. Mort also pointed out that Obama makes serious demands only on Israel but asks almost nothing of the Palestinian Authority. All of this evidence makes it clear that President Obama is the most hostile American president Israel has ever encountered.

On Tuesday, December 14th, Mort went to the studios of Pajamas; Media (PJTV), where he was interviewed by its director, Roger Simon. The interview can be seen on PJTV.

PJTV has become one of the fastest growing and most frequently watched media outlets on the internet. Mort also did several radio interviews when he was in Los Angeles.

TV and Radio Appearances

Mort was a guest on over a dozen radio programs throughout the country, including the BBC and CBS, discussing the Egypt situation. He also appeared several times on TV shows including Fox TV where he debated a law professor concerning the appropriateness of prosecuting 11 Muslim students who repeatedly disrupted Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren's lecture at UC Irvine. In mid-February, Mort spent a week in Israel meeting with many of Israel's top officials and journalists.



Joseph Sabag, ZOA Florida Region Executive Director, U.S. Cong. Ted Deutch (D-FL) & ZOA President Morton Klein

PHOTO CREDIT: MORT KLEIN

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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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