IN HONOR OF ISRAEL’S FALLEN.

INSIDE: MORTON A. KLEIN’s WARTIME VISIT TO ISRAEL

ZOA’s ADVOCACY MISSION TO CAPITOL HILL

FORMER IDF CHIEF YA’ALON ASSAILS ISRAEL’s GAZA WITHDRAWAL

ZOA IN ACTION

AROUND THE COUNTRY

ON COLLEGE CAMPUS

IN THE MEDIA

ZOA’S 109TH ANNUAL DINNER TO FEATURE:

WOOLSEY, ZUCKERMAN, LAUDER, TISCH, ABRAMOWITZ & MARCUS
Mort Klein, seen here holding a kassam rocket which has landed in Sderot, joined five other presidents of American Jewish organizations on a 3-day solidarity trip to Israel during the Hezbollah war against Israel, and filed the following report:

"We traveled to both Haifa in the north and Sderot in the south. Haifa was largely abandoned, with few people and cars moving. Most of the stores seemed to be closed. We saw the destruction of homes, apartments, roads, and hospitals caused by the 3000 rocket attacks Israel endured. We met with the mayor of Haifa, Younathan Ya'ahav, who spoke of the difficulties there, but praised the courage of the Israeli people. We also visited Rambam Hospital where we saw beautiful Jewish boys and girls, men and women, who had suffered horrific physical losses too painful to describe, but remarkably their spirits were high and their courage palpable.

"The mayor of Sderot, Eli Moyal, told us he had been begging the Israeli government for years to launch a major offensive in Gaza to stop the Kassams from being launched against Sderot citizens on a daily basis. When I asked Moyal why he thought the government refused to do anything, he said 'I can't explain it.' He then went on to say 'we must take this opportunity to kill all the Arab terrorists.'

"We also met with Prime Minister Ehud Olmert who spoke very strongly saying 'we will do everything in our power to destroy the Arab/Hezbollah terrorists and get our kidnapped soldiers back.' Unfortunately, that has not happened. Afterwards, we had meetings with Minister of Foreign Affairs Tzipi Livni and speaker of the Knesset Dalia Itzik. They expressed great appreciation for our visit. Livni expressed great concern about protecting Lebanese civilian lives, and praised the unity and support of the Israeli people in this war.

"The only journalist we met was Khaled Abu Toameh, an Arab Muslim who writes for the Jerusalem Post. He told us that the Israeli concessions including the Gaza withdrawal are what encouraged and inspired the Arabs to launch more terror attacks against Israel. He said the Arabs told him 'why should we negotiate when killing Jews works so much better.' He thought Olmert's plan to leave most of Judea & Samaria and hand it over to Hamas is a serious mistake.

"Our final meeting was with Benjamin Netanyahu, who made a strong speech saying this war could be a blessing in disguise. He said the world may now be taking seriously the need to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of Iran, since they will surely use them. He also said that even before this war, the people of Israel had turned strongly against Olmert's plan to give away almost all of the rest of Judea and Samaria and remove 50-80,000 Jews. He said giving this land to Hamas is a serious mistake. Netanyahu also said it was 'jejune' [childish] to think that building a fence could really protect Israel.
OVER 200 ZOA ACTIVISTS MEET WITH CONGRESS MEMBERS TO URGE ACTION AGAINST FUNDING THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY, AND ACTION AGAINST IRAN’S DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AS WELL AS SAUDI ARABIA’S PROMOTION AND SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM

ZOA MISSION PROMOTES ISRAEL ON CAPITOL HILL.

The Zionist Organization of America’s annual Washington Mission proved to be another tremendously successful, two-day program of lobbying and educating on behalf of the cause of Israel.


Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairwoman of the House Subcommittee on the Middle East, stated, “Thanks to the ZOA, we have had a record season of passing legislation ... Thanks to this organization, we got the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act.”

Thanks to the ZOA, we have had a record season of passing legislation ... Thanks to this organization, we got the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)

Our delegates held 180 meetings with Members of Congress and/or their senior staff members. A highlight of the Mission was the ZOA Capitol Hill luncheon where 18 legislators (nine Democrats and nine Republicans), including two Senators, Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) and Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) saluted ZOA’s work and pledged their own warm support for Israel.

The Mission commenced with a gala dinner on Capitol Hill, in the Cannon House Building’s Caucus Room, where the two featured speakers were Dr. Kenneth Levin, the noted author of The Oslo Syndrome: Delusions of a People Under Siege; and Reverend Robert Stearns, co-founder and regional vice-president of the new pro-Israel lobby group, Christians United for Israel. Morton A. Klein, National President of ZOA, also spoke. Gene Shusman of Philadelphia and Andrea Friedman of New Jersey introduced the speakers.

Mort Klein, in his remarks, welcomed the ZOA members and spoke of the achievements of the ZOA on the Hill, on campuses and in the media. He proudly talked about the recent ZOA testimony before the US Commission on Civil Rights, which helped lead to its finding that condemnation of Israel’s right to exist is a form of anti-Semitism. The Civil Rights Commission also recognized that Jewish students are entitled to protection against anti-Semitic harassment under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and that universities have an obligation under the law to ensure that Jewish students are not subjected to a hostile environment.

Klein also spoke in detail about the ‘Prisoner’s Document’, the plan put forward for a Palestinian referendum by Palestinian Authority (PA) chief Mahmoud Abbas, highlighting its endorsement of continued terrorism against (cont. on page 4)
Israel, its Nazi-like legitimizing the murder of Jews who live beyond the 1967 green line, its non-acceptance of Israel’s existence as a Jewish state and its abrogation of Palestinian obligations under the signed Oslo agreements and the 2003 Roadmap peace plan. Klein also outlined the reasons for the ZOA’s warning of the dangers behind Ehud Olmert’s plan for further Israeli unilateral withdrawals as well as the correctness of the ZOA’s warnings of the likely negative consequences behind last year’s Gaza/northern Samaria withdrawal.

Levin outlined the historical responses of Jews and other minority groups to extreme persecution and national tragedy, with emphasis on the totally mistaken idea that Israeli/Jewish actions and policies can favorably alter the conduct of anti-Semitic regimes and groups, and he described the continuation of these tragic patterns in the Oslo peace process.

Stearns emphasized that the Hebrew Bible makes it clear that G-d gave all of the land of Israel to the Jews for eternity. He also stressed that the Bible states explicitly, that “Those who bless the Jews will be blessed while those who curse the Jews will be cursed.” He thrilled the crowd when he informed them that 3000 Christians will be joining him and other Christian leaders in Washington, DC, on July 18 to lobby for Israel.

The next day, Mission participants met at the offices of the Representatives and Senators on Capitol Hill to discuss and get commitments to co-sponsor important legislation that would benefit Israel and assist in its fight against Islamist terrorism. ZOA members also thanked their lawmakers for their past support of key bills.

Following these meetings, ZOA members attended a memorable Capitol Hill luncheon which 30 members of Congress attended.

Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA), Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, lauded the ZOA for “the tremendous work you do, not only here in Washington, but across the country, educating people about Israel and the importance of the American-Israeli alliance.”

Roy Blunt (R-MO), the House Majority Whip, paid tribute to the correctness of the ZOA’s past warnings on the risk of unilateral concessions to the Palestinians, saying, “You were right about Gaza last year.”

I applaud the tremendous work you do, not only here in Washington, but across the country, educating people about Israel and the importance of the American-Israeli alliance.

Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA)

Some major points made by General Ya'alon:

“I do not see any prospect for peace and reconciliation on the Palestinian side. I needed no sophisticated intelligence to reach this conclusion – I only had to look at their textbooks, posters and so on. We should not be surprised but we ignored it … We need a wake-up call here and across the West. Under no circumstances should we surrender to terror. As long as they see our appeasement policy, they will continue.”

“The idea that a Palestinian state will achieve stability is disconnected from reality and dangerous.”

“The establishment of a Palestinian state will lead, at some stage, to war. Such a war can be dangerous to the State of Israel. The idea that a Palestinian state will achieve stability is disconnected from reality and dangerous.”

“Even before the Hamas victory, a two-state solution was a mistaken fantasy – now it’s even more irrelevant. The Palestinians knew exactly who Hamas was when they voted for them.”

“The two-state solution has failed and to my mind is now irrelevant. In Israel we must consolidate our Jewish Zionist narrative. Without believing in our case, there is no way to convince someone else.”

“From the dawn of Zionism until this day, the source of all terrorist attacks has been the refusal of the Arab world to recognize Israel’s existence. Until this changes, we will remain the target of violent terrorist activity. The ‘67 borders are neither a solution to rocket attacks, suicide bombs nor to more conventional forms of warfare.”

“After the Gaza withdrawal, I would have recommended after the first Qassem rocket fired into Israel that there should have been a strong and immediate retaliation.”

“We must stop getting used to these constant missile attacks as if they’re rain. We can’t tolerate this missile threat from Gaza or continued terrorism.”

“It is a good question – why are we confused? We look back to what the West experienced before World War Two. There was denial of reality, denial of threat. The attitude was, ‘Let’s leave it to next year, to the next generation.’ We don’t need Chamberlains, we need Churchills. We are flooded with lies, manipulated by Al Qaeda, but most prominently by the Palestinians.”

(continued on page 18)
In January 2006, the media reported that Khalil Shikaki, a U.S.-based Palestinian Arab hired by Brandeis University as a senior lecturer at its Crown Center for Middle East Studies, had possible ties to the terrorist group, Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ). Professor Shikaki, along with Sami Al-Arian, was also a founding director of the Florida-based think-tank, World and Islam Studies Enterprise, which was shut down by federal authorities because of its association with PIJ. Al-Arian was recently deported by the United States, which accused him of providing goods and services to the militant group. Shikaki is also the brother of PIJ founder, Fathi Shikaki.

Among PIJ’s more infamous acts was an April 1995 bombing in Israel that killed a Brandeis student, Alisa Flatow. PIJ has carried out most of the suicide bombings in Israel during last year’s Palestinian “cease-fire,” including the suicide bombing in Netanya in December that killed 5 Israelis and maimed 49 more.

Brandeis is the only nonsectarian Jewish-sponsored college in the United States, and over half of its student body population is Jewish.

Prominent terrorism expert Steve Emerson said: “The pattern of evidence from the wiretaps introduced at the trial… and other material clearly show that Shikaki was intimately not just aware of, but participated in the operations of Islamic Jihad until January 1995, contrary to all of his public denials…. He was a pivotal player in the creation of these institutions – the transfer point between the different parties in the Islamic Jihad, and their transfers of monies.” Steven Flatow, father of the murdered Alisa Flatow said, “How ironic is it that if he is tainted by Islamic Jihad, that he be teaching at a university where one of the students was killed by Islamic Jihad? … You have to wonder what (Brandeis) was thinking.”

In light of this troubling information, ZOA National President Morton Klein, Chairman of the Board Dr. Michael Goldblatt, and Chairman of the National Executive Committee Dr. Alan Mazurek, wrote to Brandeis President, Jehuda Reinharz urging him “to reconsider this appointment in light of Shikaki’s deeply disturbing activities.”

Brandeis refused to take any action, stating since Shikaki had never been “criminally indicted” they would pursue the matter no further.

Later the same month, the ZOA urged Brandeis to rescind its decision to give an honorary degree to playwright Tony Kushner at its May 2006 commencement ceremony. Kushner is the author of the screenplay “Munich,” which was widely condemned for its anti-Israel inaccuracies and its sympathetic treatment of Palestinian Arab terrorists. Kushner himself had expressed strong anti-Israel views, calling the establishment of the State of Israel “a mistake,” and stated that “it would have been better if Israel never happened.” He also has falsely accused Israel of “ethnic cleansing” and “deliberate destruction of Palestinian culture and a systematic attempt to destroy the identity of the Palestinian people.” Kushner, on the Board of a group that advocates boycotting Israeli products and divesting from companies that do business in Israel, had his name appear on a letter “saluting” the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) for its move toward divestment. According to Kushner, “the biggest supporters of Israel are the most repulsive members of the Jewish community and Israel itself has got this disgraceful record.” Kushner was also on record speaking of “the shame of American Jews for failing to denounce Israel,” and stating that “Zionism has produced a long, shameful, and debilitating history.”

Despite Kushner’s Israel-bashing, Brandeis stood by its decision to honor him, touting his literary achievements. Yet according to new reports, university officials later admitted that, had the facts about Kushner been known beforehand, the university would not have extended an invitation to him.

Also in April, the ZOA urged Brandeis to cancel a virulently anti-Israel art exhibit at the university’s Goldfarb Library called “Voices from Palestine,” featuring children’s paintings from Bethlehem that were unabashedly used as pro-PLO and anti-Israel propaganda. A widely circulated promotional poster for the exhibit depicted a painting by a Palestinian Arab youth, with the caption that his “village [was] destroyed in 1948” and that he “dreams of liberation.” The painting included a kaffiyeh-shrouded dove, with the Dome of the Rock mosque as its heart, bleeding over a map of all of Israel referred to as “Palestine” – purporting to show Palestinian Arabs as victims of Zionist aggression.

Following complaints about the exhibit, the paintings were removed four days into its scheduled two-week run – an action for which ZOA applauded Brandeis officials. The Boston Globe reported that Brandeis would consider displaying the artwork again in the fall, if artwork depicting the Israeli point of view was displayed as well.
Please mark your calendar

ZOA’s JUSTICE LOUIS D. BRANDEIS AWARD DINNER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2006
MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL • NEW YORK CITY
Reception 5:00 PM • Dinner 6:00 PM

JUSTICE LOUIS D. BRANDEIS AWARD:
MORTIMER B. ZUCKERMAN
Chairman, Boston Properties / Editor-in-Chief, U.S. News & World Report / Former Chairman, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations

KEYNOTE SPEAKER & DEFENDER OF ISRAEL AWARD:
R. JAMES WOOLSEY
Former CIA Director

DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD:
KENNETH S. ABRAMOWITZ
Managing General Partner & Co-Founder, NGN Capital / Chairman of the Board, American Friends of Likud

BEN HECHT AWARD FOR JOURNALISM:
ITAMAR MARCUS
Director, Palestinian Media Watch

Join us at ZOA’s 109th Anniversary Gala

For more information, contact Felice Capustin at the Zionist Organization of America at (212) 481-1500

ZOA NATIONAL CONVENTION

Sunday, November 19, 2006 • Monday, November 20, 2006
This year’s Dinner will coincide with the ZOA’s 95th National Convention featuring a number of prominent speakers and policy sessions.
Sunday and Monday morning & afternoon.

For information about joining your Region’s delegation, please call the ZOA office at (212) 481-1500, and speak with Felice Capustin (Ext. 229).

STAY INFORMED. VISIT WWW.ZOA.ORG
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairwoman of the House Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, stated, “Thanks to the ZOA, we have had a record season of passing legislation ... Thanks to this organization, we got the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act.”

Steve Chabot (R-OH), Vice-Chair of the House Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, observed, “Those who raise their children to be suicide bombers should be the ones hauled before the [International] Court.”

Steve Rothman (D-NY), House Assistant Democratic Whip, told the audience “how grateful I am to the ZOA for being in the front-line of defense of Israel.”

Shelley Berkley (D-NV) declared, “I don’t need to tell you about the extraordinary efforts of Mort Klein. He’s one of a kind.”

Anthony Weiner (D-NY) opened with the words, “I come from the ZOA wing of the Democratic Party ... We in America love the idea of the moderate Arab state. It’d be great if the unicorn existed too. If we judge people on their acts, we must support Israel. One way to support American interests is to support Israel.”

Scott Garrett (R-NJ), Member of the Homeland Security Caucus, said, “You cannot engage in the peace process by giving up land for peace – it will never work.”

Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), Assistant Whip of the House Democratic Caucus, observed, “The problem is clear to anyone not blinded – the Palestinians and Arabs haven’t accepted the reality of Israel’s existence as a Jewish state. When someone wants to kill you, you have to defend yourselves. Some people do not accept Israel’s right to self-defense. Well a pox on them ... You cannot give up territory to those who would kill you.”

Steve Israel (D-NY), House Assistant Democratic Whip, observed, “If we want a secure US and Israel, we need energy independence. We need to harness the entrepreneurial spirit to break our oil dependence.”

Robert Andrews (D-NJ) said that the US “will be tested on our posture towards the Palestinian Authority ... No government that is headed by a terrorist group should have negotiations with the US and should receive no trade break or a dollar.”

Eliot Engel (D-NY) said, “We know Syria is complicit in terror with Hamas. We must get the President to implement all the sanctions in the Syria Accountability Act.”

Trent Franks (R-AZ) said that America must help Israel defend itself and that “the peace of the world is intrinsically connected to the peace of Jerusalem.”

Brad Sherman (D-CA) compared the Palestinian election of Hamas to the German election of the Nazis, saying, “both won election on a platform that their territory must be judenrein.”

Bob Beaufre (R-CO) spoke of the need to confront Islamofascism and not appease it, like Chamberlain appeased Hitler in the 1930s, saying, “When the world is tolerant to evil, invariably good people die.”

Rick Renzi (R-AZ) pointed out that Hamas and Hezbollah are not merely terrorist groups attacking Israel, but constitute “a front in the Islamist war on America.”

You were right about Gaza last year.

Roy Blunt (R-MO)

You are not Jews who bend their knees. When we really need you, we know that you will be standing at our side.

Ron Dermer, Israeli Embassy’s Minister for Economic Affairs
Sue Kelly (R-NY) said that, “I am always going to do everything I can to support to support Israel.”

In the afternoon, the ZOA activists were addressed by the Israeli Embassy’s Minister for Economic Affairs, Ron Dermer, who gave a thorough analysis of Palestinian propaganda tactics and the failure of some pro-Israeli spokesmen to point out clearly that, legally and historically, it is not a case of occupation when the land in dispute is not Palestinian land, but Jewish land. “If you do not have a right to Hebron, you do not have a right to Tel Aviv.” Dermer added that Jewish activists should always emphasize that the 22 Arab countries are 600 times the size of Israel. He urged Israel’s supporters to “widen the lens” so that the conflict is not artificially seen as one merely between weak Palestinians and strong Israelis, but “between a small democratic state trying to survive in a sea of tyrannies.” Dermer also paid tribute to the ZOA – “you are not Jews who bend their knees. When we really need you, we know that you will be standing at our side.” He also called upon other Jewish organizations to join the ZOA in making a strong public statement against Abbas’ ‘Prisoner’s Document.’

In their meetings with Members of Congress, the ZOA activists’ agenda included:

• Urging Members to support the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act to ban direct US aid to any Palestinian entity or agency controlled by Hamas or any other terrorist group and to also place benchmarks on any indirect assistance. In an upcoming House/Senate conference committee on this legislation, the ZOA urged support for the stronger House version of the bill. It currently has 88 co-sponsors in the Senate, led by Mitch McConnell (R-KY), and 295 co-sponsors in the House, led by Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).

• Urging Members to support the Saudi Arabia Accountability Act (S.1171/H.R.2037), which would impose sanctions unless the Saudis stop supporting extremist Wahhabi education in mosques throughout the world, stop funding terrorist groups and fully cooperate with US efforts against terrorism. It currently has 14 co-sponsors in the Senate, led by Arlen Specter (R-PA), and 59 in the House, led by Anthony Weiner (D-NY).

• Urging Members to support the Iran Freedom Support Act, which holds the current Iranian regime accountable for attempting to develop nuclear weapons that can threaten the US and Israel, by imposing sanctions on companies that invest in Iran’s energy sector. It currently has 61 co-sponsors in the Senate, led by Rick Santorum (R-PA) and 360 in the House, led by Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).

ZOA activists also explained to their Members of Congress the reasons for ZOA’s opposition to the Olmert government’s plan to give away over 90% of Judea and Samaria to the Hamas terrorist regime while forcibly removing 80,000 Jewish men, women and children from their homes and why it also harms US interests in the region and the US war against terrorism. ZOA also pointed out that recent polls show that over 70% of Israelis oppose the plan, understanding it will reward terrorism, encourage more terrorism, and bring terrorists closer to Israel’s major population centers.

“Don’t need to tell you about the extraordinary efforts of Mort Klein. He’s one of a kind.

Shelley Berkley (D-NV)

“You cannot engage in the peace process by giving up land for peace – it will never work.

Scott Garrett (R-NJ)
The delegation of students that joined the ZOA’s Mission to Capitol Hill in Washington DC is a preview of the young Jewish leadership that will advocate for Israel in the years ahead. Delegation leaders, on far right are ZOA Campus Coordinator Rachel Glaser, and Batya Yarmish, ZOA Campus Intern and presently at NYU Dental School.

A typical lobbying session: leaders of Michigan ZOA delegation meet with a Congressional aide.

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) and ZOA President Morton A. Klein.

Representative Rick Renzi (R-AZ).

ZOA lobbyists meet with Representative Anthony D. Weiner (D-NY).
Representative Brad Sherman (D-CA).  
Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairwoman, House Subcommittee on the Middle East.  
Representative Sue Kelly (R-NY).  
Philadelphia District’s ZOA contingent, with Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA), center.  
Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY) meets with two ZOA delegates.  
Representative Steven R. Rothman (D-NJ).  
Representative Trent Franks (R-AZ) with ZOA President Morton A. Klein.  
Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY).
ZOA CAMPUS ACTIVISM NETWORK

Campus Activism Network Update, Spring Semester 2006

The ZOA’s Campus Activism Network (ZOA CAN) ran more than 25 programs on college campuses nationwide in spring 2006. Speakers included ZOA President Morton Klein at Ohio State University; Rabbi Shmuley Boteach at SUNY, Albany; and Robert Spencer at Connecticut College. Harvard Law student and author Ben Shapiro addressed students at NYU and Ohio State University. Steven Perles, Esq., who represents victims of terror attacks, lectured at University of Maryland, College Park. ZOA Vice President Howard Schaerf, Esq. spoke at Colby College.

ZOA Reaches Business and Law Schools

Robert Friedman, a Managing Director at a NY investment firm, spoke to a crowd of Columbia MBA students; ZOA Board member Edward Siegel spoke on “The Legitimate Claims of the Jewish People to Settlement and the Land” at Touro Law school; Philadelphia ZOA’s Lori Lowenthal Marcus spoke at Rutgers School of Law, and Hayim Azses spoke at Fordham Law School.

Special Programs and Tours

SpeedKnesset, created by ZOA CAN to teach about the workings of Israeli democracy, was brought to several campuses in the Virginia and DC area, including University of Virginia, William and Mary, Virginia Commonwealth University, and George Washington University.

The ZOA, together with Hasbara Fellowships, brought Itamar Marcus, Director of Palestinian Media Watch to several campuses, including University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, and George Mason University. Marcus’s presentation focused on Palestinian incitement in the media which targets children, as well the anti-Israel and anti-Semitic incitement that is widespread throughout the Arab world.

ZOA CAN co-sponsored a tour of Ishmael Khaladi, an Israeli Bedouin who served in the IDF and worked for the Israel Defense Ministry, to speak on Israel as a Democracy at NYU, George Washington University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Stern College, and Trinity College.

Hayim Azses, an expert in the Arab media and on Hasbara, was co-sponsored by ZOA CAN to speak at several New York area campuses including NYU, Fordham, Hunter College, and Baruch College.

ZOA Combats Anti-Israel Activities

On the West Coast, where anti-Israel campus events have been flagrant, ZOA CAN met with pro-Israel activist students to discuss strategies for countering anti-Israel groups; to distribute flyers and leaflets; and to engage in letter-writing campaigns to various student newspapers. Campuses included UCLA, UC Irvine, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Stanford University, and UC Santa Cruz.

Students Send Messages to IDF Soldiers

ZOA CAN’s “Make a Video for a Soldier” video-taped Jewish students’ messages of support, which were then edited into a short film to be screened for Israel Defense Force soldiers as a morale booster. The program visited Rutgers University, NYU, Queens College, and UCLA.
ZOA College Missions to Israel

ZOA co-sponsored a Taglit-Birthright Israel trip in June 2006 with Mayanot. Forty students from around the country experienced Israel through tours, lectures, and advocacy seminars. They met with former Minister and current MK Natan Sharansky; an Israeli Arab journalist for the Jerusalem Post, Khalid Abu Toameh; and Maayan Yadaia, an evacuee from Gaza who currently resides in the Golan Heights. ZOA’s Campus Activism Network provided educational workshops that taught students Israeli history as well as techniques to combat anti-Israel activities on college campuses.

Students visited historical sites including Masada, Independence Hall, and the Western Wall tunnels. Eight IDF soldiers accompanied the group for part of the trip and exposed them to life in the IDF and Israeli society. Participant David Bogomolny said: “The experience with the soldiers motivated me to consider different forms of action that I can take to promote the Jewish cause.”

If you know someone eligible for a Taglit-birthright Israel trip, please refer them to campus@zoa.org.

This past winter, ZOA also sent 20 students on the annual Student Leadership Mission to Israel, where students spent two inspiring weeks during winter vacation learning pro-Israel advocacy skills and traveling to holy and historic sites. Participants toured Judea and Samaria and visited evacuees from Gush Katif who are living in temporary housing units; organized a protest at the Norwegian Embassy in Tel Aviv against a boycott initiated by a Norwegian province against Israel; met with recent olim from North America; and taught Israeli high school students about pro-Israel PR and how to be effective Israel ambassadors when traveling abroad. They met Kedumim mayor Daniella Weiss, spent a Shabbat in Efrat organized by David Bedein of Israel Resource News Agency, and visited the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hevron with Hevron spokesperson David Wilder. Students learned how to rebut anti-Israel propaganda, build coalitions on campus, write press releases, and hone their debating skills. ZOA Campus Coordinator Rachel Glaser joined ZOA shaliach Dror Elner in leading the advocacy workshops in Israel, while Campus Director Julie Sager organized the itinerary and logistics of the ZOA Israel trip.

To apply for the ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel this winter, email campus@zoa.org.

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General (Ret.) Effie Eitam, Member of Knesset

A current member of Knesset from the National Union/National Religious Party, Eitam had distinguished himself during a 30-year career with the IDF – during the 1973 Yom Kippur War, the Entebbe Rescue Mission, and the 1982 Lebanon War. General Eitam was Minister of Housing and Construction, Minister of National Infrastructure, and Minister Without Portfolio in the Ariel Sharon government. He voluntarily quit Sharon’s government and his ministerial position because of his strong opposition to the withdrawal/evacuation plan. He is recognized as one of the prominent voices against Israeli retreat and a strong proponent of the war against Islamic terror.

Nobel Prize winner Yisrael Robert Aumann

The 2005 Nobel Prize laureate in Economics and one of the founding fathers of the Center for the Study of Rationality at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Aumann, a mathematician and a member of the United States National Academy of Sciences, was a frequent spokesman opposed to Israel’s withdrawal from Gaza in 2005, claiming it to be a serious threat to the security of Israel.

Dov Weissglas, Esq., Chief Advisor to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon

Senior political advisor and chief of the office of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. As Sharon’s closest confident and personal lawyer, Weissglas was the architect of Israel’s Gaza withdrawal plan and was chosen by the former prime minister to negotiate with then-US National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice and then-US Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Martin Kramer, Tel Aviv University

The Wexler-Fromer Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Professor Martin Kramer is an authority on Islam and Arab politics. Professor Kramer, immediate past Director of the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle East Studies at Tel Aviv University, and previously a Fellow of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, and editor of the *Middle East Quarterly*, is author of several books on Islam’s assault on Western culture.

Edward Mortimer, Top UN Official

Edward Mortimer has worked in the Executive Office of Secretary-General of the United Nations Kofi Annan since 1998, as head of the Speechwriting Unit, and also since 2001, Director of Communications. A British citizen, with a strong background as a foreign affairs commentator, Mortimer is the author of several books and pamphlets on foreign and public policy.

Tashbih Sayyed, Leading pro-Israel Muslim

One of the world’s few and most distinguished pro-Israel Muslims, Tashbih Sayyed is the Editor-in-Chief of a weekly newspaper, *Pakistan Today* and of *Muslim World Today*. He is also president of the Council for Democracy and Tolerance, and an adjunct Fellow of the Hudson Institute, and has written extensively on issues concerning the Middle East, and the struggle between Islam and the West.
Susan Tuchman has been among the leaders nationwide in the effort to advocate for Jewish students and other pro-Israel voices at America’s colleges and universities. In October 2004, she filed a complaint on behalf of Jewish students at the University of California, Irvine under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The complaint alleged that the university was failing to live up to its obligation to rectify the harassment and hostility that Jewish students were facing on that campus. The complaint, filed with the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, triggered that agency’s first-ever investigation of anti-Semitism under Title VI, which is ongoing.

Based on her work, Tuchman was invited to testify before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights last November, when it held a landmark hearing on campus anti-Semitism. Her testimony was instrumental in the findings and recommendations issued by the Commission in April, which will be reported to the President and Congress. According to Tuchman, the Commission’s conclusions “couldn’t be better for Jewish students on campus.” The Commission recognized that students have the legal right to be protected from anti-Semitic harassment, and also that some anti-Zionist and anti-Israel sentiment amounts to anti-Semitism. With her legal expertise, Tuchman understands that not all criticism of Israel is unlawful. “When the criticism is inaccurate and imbalanced, when Israel is demonized, [when opponents] use Nazi symbols – those are indications that more is going on” than legitimate criticism of Israel’s policies. The anti-Israel activity on campus has affected many Jewish students, making them “feel too intimidated to participate in pro-Israel activities.”

The Commission will be issuing materials to inform students of their legal rights, and the ZOA is undertaking its own public education campaign, says Tuchman. The ZOA’s effort will be geared to helping students subjected to hostility on campus understand that “they have legal recourse under federal law.” Armed with this information, “students will feel empowered and not so marginalized.”

Tuchman came to the ZOA in 2003. She had responded to ZOA’s ad in The New York Times, seeking a litigation attorney who wanted to help terror victims. “I thought: This is exactly what I wanted to do.”

Prior to joining the ZOA, Tuchman took time off from private law practice to raise her children. A graduate of Brandeis University, she went on to get her law degree from the Boston University School of Law. A native of Long Island, she then served as a judicial clerk for the Massachusetts Superior Court.

After her clerkship, she worked for the Boston firm of Fine and Ambrogne where she concentrated on civil rights and other constitutional cases until that firm dissolved. She then joined the Boston office of Hinckley, Allen and Snyder, the largest law firm in Providence, RI, where she was a partner in the litigation department, until her family relocated to the New York area.

Tuchman has taken on matters outside the campuses as well. Soon after her arrival at the ZOA, Tuchman filed a federal lawsuit against the U.S. State Department to enforce a federal law that permits American citizens born in Jerusalem to have “Israel” listed as their birthplace on their passports and other documents. Before the law was enacted, the State Department was recording “Jerusalem” as their birthplace, with no country listed. The trial court dismissed the lawsuit on the ground that the plaintiffs lacked standing to sue. On appeal of the same decision in a companion case, which was handled by CLJ board member Nathan Lewin, Esq., the trial court’s decision was reversed, and the case was remanded to the trial court for further proceedings.

Recently, Tuchman filed an amicus (“friend of the court”) brief in support of an Egyptian Jewish family whose property – like many Egyptian Jews – was seized by the Egyptian government under Nasser. The property eventually ended up in the hands of the Coca-Cola Company, and is now being used as the “Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Egypt.” Even though Coca-Cola knew the circumstances under which it acquired the property, it refused to compensate the family, which then sued Coca-Cola in a New York federal court. The case was dismissed based on Coca-Cola’s argument that an Egyptian court was a more appropriate forum. On appeal, the ZOA’s amicus brief focused on the rampant anti-Semitism in Egypt, which would prevent the family from getting a fair trial there. The Second Circuit Court of Appeals agreed, and the case was sent back to the trial court for further proceedings.

Tuchman notes that “we often get calls from people seeking legal help or information, or who want to bring legal issues affecting Israel to our attention.” Tuchman can be reached at the ZOA’s national office at 212-481-1500.

The bottom line, Tuchman says, is: “Anybody who is a supporter of Israel has a right to speak out for Israel. That’s a fundamental right.”

Anybody who is a supporter of Israel has a right to speak out for Israel. That’s a fundamental right.
ZOA IN ACTION
AROUND THE COUNTRY

In recent months, Mort Klein has addressed two Israel Bonds dinners in New York, a lunch- eon of the Detroit ZOA, the Boca Raton Day School, the Fifth Avenue Synagogue in New York City and synagogues in Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Boca Raton and Stamford, CT. Mort also debated an Arab- American leader, Nada Khader of the anti-Israel WESPAC Foundation in Westchester, NY. Mort has had a number of television appearances, including on the Paula Zahn Show on CNN, Neil Cavuto on Fox News and the Al-Jazeera network. He also appeared on radio with Janet Parschall and in programs in Los Angeles and Chicago. Mort's opinion pieces and letters to the editor have appeared in the Forward, Jerusalem Post, the Jewish Press, Muslim World Today, New Republic, Pakistan World Today, Philadelphia Inquirer and Washington Post. Mort participated in proceedings of the World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem, along with ZOA delegates Lew Dushé, Dr. Michael Franzblau, Rubin Margules, Henry Silverman, Steve Orlow and the Hon. Alfred Kleiman.

The Greater Philadelphia District co-sponsored three major unity rallies for Israel in the city and suburbs during the recent Lebanon war which attracted 700, 2,000 and 1,000 people, respectively. Pro-Israel rallies are also held weekly each Friday in front of the Israeli Consulate in downtown Philadelphia to counteract large anti-Israel demonstrations held across the street each week ... The Greater Philadelphia District's radio program, “The ZOA Middle East Report,” marked its second anniversary in May. Recent guests have included Congressman Eliot Engel, retired Israeli Gen. Yaakov Amidror, Haifa University President Aaron Ben- Ze’ev, Lebanese Christian activist Brigitte Gabriel, Entebbe hostage and Israeli diplomat, Ilan Hartuv, and Zionist leaders from Sweden, France and Mexico. A major marketing initiative has been planned to raise funds for the radio show ... District President, Lori Lowenthal Marcus, continues to publish columns in the Jewish Exponent criticizing the media ... Plans are being formulated to bring seminars about Israel and the Middle East into area high schools when the schools resume in September ... Marcus also addressed ZOA interns in New York about the complexities of dealing with the media.

Under the leadership of Northern California President, Dr. Michael J. Franzblau, M.D., the Northern California chapter held its annual general meeting in May, attracting a record number of close to 100 board members, members at large, and other guests. The meeting was addressed by popular radio talk show host, John Rothman, who is a former ZOA San Francisco Board President ... The Northern California Chapter are continuing efforts to expand membership throughout the greater San Francisco Bay area and Northern California and also to expand the Board of Directors for that region.

The Los Angeles Regional Office continues its campaign to attract additional leadership for its Board of Directors, which currently consists of 28 members. The Board continues to meet bi-monthly and the Executive Committee monthly ... At a recent Board Meeting, 50 members and guests attended to hear Mort Klein give a report on his high-level meetings with Israeli government officials during his recent trip to Israel. The Board was also privileged to hear a moving report from Parvin Pezeshkian, a young woman born in Iran and reared as a Muslim. She escaped an oppressive and forced marriage to a prince in the United Arab Emirates while at college in this country before traveling from Pittsburgh to the west coast where she met and was protected by Jews and subsequently converted to Judaism ... The Los Angeles Regional Office worked closely with Susan Tuchman, director of the ZOA's Center for Law & Justice, on the problems of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel activism and faculty encountered by Jewish students attending UC Irvine campus; Board members attended meetings in that city and on that campus, and reproduced and distributed Susan's complaint to the Commission on Civil Rights of the Department of Education and the excellent response it engendered from the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights ... Board President, Ed Ames, was recently interviewed by the Whittier Daily News and the Los Angeles Jewish Journal on the subject of Israel's attack on Hezbollah following the kidnapping of two Israeli soldiers by the ter- rorist group and the subsequent missile attacks against Israeli towns.

The Michigan Region gave grants to 27 Michigan area students to attend different educational programs in Israel for the year 2005/06 ... Morton A. Klein, ZOA National President delivered a community-wide address on the topic “The Holocaust Lessons for Today Mid-East Conflict. Israel and Arabs – What’s Next?” at Shaarey Zedek Congregation, Adler Hall, which was attended by over 180 people ... A group of 11 delegates from Michigan went to Washington D.C. in June for the ZOA’s Annual Activist Mission for the lobbying the Congress. Along with 250 delegates from around the country, they attended the private meetings with their respective U.S. Senators and Representatives, participated in a special Capitol Hill meetings with members of Congress and received exclusive behind-the-scenes briefings from top Middle East experts ... The Michigan Region sponsored in August the Akiva Dinner/Fund Raising Campaign ... The Region has also been active in sponsoring the Jewish School in Ukraine, whose Rabbi and Director, Melach Sheykhet, is helping students from his school to immigrate to Israel ... The Michigan Region has also sponsored the Public Lecture in the Holocaust Museum given by Dr. D. Stoffeld, B’Nai Brief and the new book Operation Solomon: The Daring Rescue of the Ethiopian Jews by Stephen Spector. It will be also spon- soring the Jewish Community Center Book Fair in November and well as the American Jewish Committee special evening program for Jewish American and Indian American Community at the Congregation Shaarey Zedek the same month ... The Region also honored ardent Zionists Harold and Barbara Beznos, which was one of the most successful fund raising activities in the Regions’ history. The main speaker at the event was Dr. Boaz Ganor, Director of the Counter-Terrorism Institute ... Dr. Jerry Kaufman, Secretary of ZOA’s National Board and publisher of ZINS, has published letters and articles in various Michigan newspapers.
Israel was criticized for a “disproportionate” response to the thousands of missiles, rockets and mortars that rained down on its civilian population.

ZOA replies: The only thing “disproportionate” was the condemnation of Israel.

“Now – more than ever – we need to send a message to Israel’s friends no less than its enemies, that there is peace only through strength.

We ask that you support the ZOA, Israel’s staunchest defender in the United States; because the battle has just begun, and because the ZOA has been on the forefront all along.”

Morton Klein

Peace can only be achieved through strength.
“The first layer of their terrorist infrastructure is education of the young. After a decade of encouraging children to admire suicide bombers, children have been asked about their aspirations and they do not answer that they want to become doctors and lawyers, they answer that they want to become shahids [martyrs] – these are their values.”

“Continuing Palestinian incitement – meaning the raising and teaching of children from the age of 3 to hate and kill Israelis – makes peace impossible.”

“In 1999, I was commander of Central Command and I said then that we would face a war with Arafat in 2000. I knew it when Barak said that he would have a settlement with Arafat within 15 months, which meant by September 2000. Israel and the West were surprised.”

“The nature of the threat to Israel has changed... the war has become super-conventional. Syrian scud missiles, Iranian Shihab missiles, Iran pursuing nuclear capabilities – these are the threats today.”

“Iran is seeking a nuclear capability, the Iranian military project – there is no doubt of their intention and determination – and this must be stopped.”
The ZOA is a member of the Israel on Campus Coalition (ICC), a network of national organizations committed to promoting Israel education and advocacy on campus. The nearly thirty organizations currently participating in the ICC are dedicated to working collaboratively to assist students in fostering support for Israel on the college campus. Recently, Assistant Director of ZOA Campus Activities Rachel Glaser attended the ICC Summit in Washington, DC where the delegation spoke with senior staff in the Bush Administration at the White House and met with Israel’s Ambassador to the US. The ZOA was one of the few member organizations specifically mentioned at the White House meeting for their outstanding work on college campuses. The ZOA Campus Activities Network also submitted talking points and information regarding Hizbullah and the war in Lebanon for inclusion in the ICC’s student handbook that is distributed to hundreds of student leaders nationwide.

ZOA Summer Interns

This summer, nine college students took part in a prestigious internship for the ZOA CAN. Interns included: Alisa Bodner, Rutgers University; Anna Bolman, Ohio State; Gadi Dotz, Yeshiva University; David Greenberg, Queens College; Julie Hirsh, Trinity College; Ross Kaplan, Colby College; Avi Posnick, Yeshiva University; David Sarna Galdi, Columbia University / Jewish Theological Seminary; and Laura Turetsky, Queens College. They will represent ZOA on their respective campuses as advocates for a strong and secure Israel.

Howard Schaerf, Esq., a member of the National ZOA Board of Directors, meets with some of the ZOA summer interns.

Encourage The Next Generation!

Zionism is more than a private, personal matter. It must be shared with the next generation, so that support for Israel will endure and grow.

Plan for the future — make your support of Zionism endure!

You surely know at least a few people who share our Zionist dreams, but have not yet joined the ZOA. Share those names with us, so that we may invite them to join us in supporting Israel and fighting anti-Semitism.

Contact the ZOA by dropping us a note in the mail, or write to email@zoa.org

You will be doing Israel an immeasurable service.
Is the ZOA in your will?

Many people list 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 David Silverstein at the ZOA Department of Planned Giving and Endowments 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:

☐ $10,000 Benefactor ☐ $1,000 Guardian ☐ $50 Member
☐ $5,000 Defender ☐ $360 Double Chai ☐ $36 Students/Seniors
☐ $3,600 Patron ☐ $100 Sustainers ☐ $________________ additional donation

☐ I have enclosed a check payable to Zionist Organization of America
☐ Please charge my credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

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ACCOUNT NO. EXP. DATE

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ADDRESS

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City/State/Zip

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Phone (Home) (Work)

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E-mail Cell

Membership is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.
For information, call 212-481-1500, Fax 212-481-1515

Please mail this form to: ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
4 EAST 34TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10016

Please visit our website: www.zoa.org

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