PUTTING PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY’S MAHMOUD ABBAS INTO FOCUS

“It is our duty to implement the principles of Yasser Arafat”

INSIDE:
ZOA’S JUSTICE LOUIS BRANDEIS ANNUAL DINNER
FEATURED: MORT ZUCKERMAN, RONALD LAUDER & JAMES TISCH

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President's Message: Abbas Promotes Terror

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas – labeled as a “moderate” by both Washington and the media – spoke to a rally of Fatah supporters in Ramallah.

His message was for Palestinians to stop killing each other. But rather than merely call for communal peace, he urged them to murder Israeli Jews instead. Abbas called for Palestinians to turn their guns and rifles on Israeli Jews, saying: “We have a legitimate right to direct our guns against Israeli occupation. It is forbidden to use these guns against Palestinians. … Our rifles, all our rifles are aimed at the occupation.”

Iran’s notorious President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad would have been proud to deliver a speech such as that given by the supposed moderate Abbas.

This was not just a case of one small, revealing statement of extremism from the P.A. leader. On the contrary, in this speech, Abbas praised the late PLO leader Yasser Arafat and other Fatah terrorists killed in attacks on Israelis as “martyrs,” as well as specifically saluting Sheik Ahmed Yassin, one of the founders of the terrorist group Hamas.

In fact, he openly conferred legitimacy on all Palestinian terror groups and all anti-Israel terrorist acts committed by them, saying: “No one [here] is a criminal.” He also spewed hatred of Jews: “The sons of Israel are corrupting humanity on earth.”

Just as important as what Abbas said is what he did not say.

Not once did Abbas condemn or even disapprove of continuing rocket attacks and attempted suicide assaults on Israel by Hamas and his very own Fatah movement. Thus, the speech is no aberration. After all, he has, in the past, called Israel the “Zionist enemy”; stated on Palestinian TV that neither Fatah nor Hamas need to recognize Israel; said of suicide bombers that “Allah loves the martyr”; and described wanted terrorists as “heroes fighting for freedom.”

It bears repeating that Abbas not only co-founded the terrorist group Fatah with Arafat – and served as his deputy for 40 years – but that he also funded the Munich massacre of Israeli Olympic athletes in 1972, and wrote a doctoral thesis and published a book denying the Holocaust.

Yet the man’s extremist actions speak even more loudly than his extremist words. As P.A. president, Abbas has refused to implement the signed Oslo agreements and the 2003 Road Map peace plan, which require him to fight, arrest, extradite and jail terrorists, confiscate their weaponry, and end the incitement to hatred and murder in P.A.-controlled media, mosques, schools and youth camps.

Last year, Abbas endorsed the so-called “Prisoners’ Plan,” a document produced by jailed Palestinian terrorists, that endorses continued terrorism against Israel, legitimizes the murder of Jews, and does not accept Israel’s existence as a Jewish state. In December 2005, Abbas approved legislation mandating financial benefits to be paid to the families of killed Palestinian terrorists.

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Over 800 people crowded the Marriott Marquis Hotel’s Ballroom in New York City on November 19, 2006 for the black-tie gala National Dinner of the Zionist Organization of America. This year’s recipient of the Louis D. Brandeis Award, the ZOA’s highest honor, was Mortimer B. Zuckerman, former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations (CPMJO), co-founder and chairman of Boston Properties and publisher of U.S. News & World Report and the New York Daily News. Dinner Co-chairs were Ronald S. Lauder and James S. Tisch, also both past chairmen of the Conference of Presidents, making this the first occasion in which three past presidents of the CPMJO have been honored at a Jewish organizational event. As ZOA National President Morton A. Klein said in his remarks, the presence of Zuckerman, Tisch and Lauder meant that the ZOA was hosting at its dinner the “rock stars of the Jewish world.”

Zuckerman was honored for a lifetime of active support for Zionism and international Jewish causes, his strong advocacy for Israel on security matters in his eloquent columns, speeches and regular guest appearances on TV’s “The McLaughlin Group.” Zuckerman has written numerous articles exposing the truth about the Arab war against Israel and in accepting his award praised the ZOA’s efforts to “inform America about the terrorists that seek Israel’s destruction and the dangers to America of Israeli concessions to them.”

James Tisch, the CEO of Loews Corporation and past chairman of the Board of United Jewish Communities and past President of UJA-Federation of New York, praised ZOA’s efforts to publicize the Palestinian Arab breaches of both the Oslo agreements and the 2003 Road Map peace plan. Tisch called ZOA’s Mort Klein, “serious and honest.”

Ronald Lauder, the national president of the Jewish National Fund and former U.S. Ambassador to Austria, today serves as director of the International Board of Governors of the International Society for Yad Vashem and is a member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council and the Board of Directors of the Jewish Theological Seminary. Through the philanthropic efforts of the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation he has also been a major force in resurrecting Jewish schools, camps and community centers in Eastern Europe.

Also honored at the Dinner were Keynote Speaker R. James Woolsey, former Director of the CIA under President Bill Clinton, who was recipient of the ZOA’s Defender of Israel Award; and Itamar Marcus, the founder and Director of Palestinian Media Watch, which analyzes the Palestinian Authority through the PA’s media and schoolbooks, who received the ZOA’s Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism on the Middle East.

Dr. Alan Mazurek, chairman of ZOA’s National Executive Committee, was the Master of Ceremonies and presided over the Dinner with aplomb, wit and humor. An inspiring invocation was also delivered by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik of Manhattan’s Kehillat Jeshurun Synagogue. World-renowned Cantor Joseph Malovany of the prestigious Fifth Avenue Synagogue in New York City led the singing of the national anthem and Hatikvah. Carl and Sylvia Freyer recited Ha’motzi.

R. James Woolsey delivered an incisive speech in which he laid out the common dangers facing Israel and the United States from radical Islamist terrorist movements, stating, “Israel’s enemies are America’s enemies.” Woolsey spoke of the dangers of Western retreat and concessions which emboldened the terrorists and referred to the war waged by Islamists upon Judeo-Christian civilization and the rule of law, which he described as the special gift of Judaism to mankind.

Last year, Woolsey wrote a powerful opinion piece in the Wall Street Journal in which he came out against Israel’s making further unilateral concessions like the 2005 withdrawal from Gaza, arguing that it is fantasy to believe that the jihadists who commit acts of terror in Israel and around the world can be appeased by Israeli concessions, an argument he elaborated at length in his speech. Woolsey observed that the ambitions of the jihadists include subjugating anyone who is not of their faith and eliminating the values of Western civilization. He then dwelt on the dissemination by Saudi Arabia of religiously-inspired hate material among American Muslims through mosques across the United States. Woolsey described some of the literature he had seen as “genocidal in character” and no better than the extremist curriculum that is radicalizing Muslim youth in Pakistani madrassahs also supported by Saudi Arabia.

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I have been impressed for a long time, at the advocacy work of the Zionist Organization of America, and at Morton Klein’s work, and I’m deeply honored to be here. – R. James Woolsey, Former CIA Director

Woolsey concluded his speech by turning to the issue of Iran and the threat it poses to world peace and the existence of Israel. He forcefully pointed out that Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is a man of such virulent extremism that he is regarded as a hardliner even within regime circles in Tehran. Woolsey said that Iran’s involvement in promoting terrorism world-wide is unsurpassed but cautioned his audience, “If you want to know who funds terror, the next time you pull into a gas station and fill up your car, adjust the rear-view mirror as you pull out so you can see yourself.” He stressed that it is vital for the Western world to develop alternative sources of energy if we are to stop the huge transfer of wealth to the oil-producing countries that are underwriting terrorism. Woolsey received a standing ovation at the conclusion of his address.

Introduced by former Justice Louis D. Brandeis Award recipient Martin Gross, Itamar Marcus started his address by praising the ZOA for taking the lead among American Jewish organizations in consistently exposing the duplicity and extremism of the Palestinian leadership and the indoctrination of hatred into Palestinian Arab society. He then riveted the audience with a chilling audio-visual demonstration of the continuing incitement to hatred and murder of Jews within the media, mosques, schools and youth camps of the Palestinian Authority. Video clips included horrifying excerpts of interviews with young children proclaiming their desire to martyr themselves by murdering Jews and sermons by Palestinian Muslim clerics describing Jews as evil and akin to the AIDS virus.

Marcus also showed the audience excerpts of Palestinian school graduation celebrations that included various dances to lyrics praising the murder of Jews and the destruction of Israel. Yet a further segment of Marcus’ presentation showed a television discussion between Palestinian academics who appropriated Jewish history for the Palestinians while denying any link between the Jewish people and the land of Israel, one of them even saying that he had more blood in his veins of biblical Israelites than present-day Jews.

Marcus then screened a video of Abbas which showed the PA leader stating that formal recognition of Israel by the Palestinian Authority is simply a means of extracting concessions from Israel.

Another feature of Marcus’ presentation was devoted to showing how anti-Israel extremism permeates all facets of Palestinian Arab society, including even mundane things like crossword puzzles and quizzes, which are regularly utilized to inculcate anti-Jewish propaganda. He also referred to the fact that several Palestinian soccer teams had been named after suicide bombers and other terrorists. Marcus said that that most of the material that he had shown the audience does not appear in the Western media, and deceitful Palestinian spokesmen are adept at delivering conciliatory messages in English while inciting against Israel in Arabic to their own constituency.

Michael Orbach, member of the ZOA’s National Board and past recipient of the Justice Louis D. Brandeis Award, introduced ZOA National President Morton A. Klein. Klein galvanized the audience with an electrifying speech in which he pointed out sharply that, despite major Israeli concessions to the Palestinians, “Israel has received in return the election of Hamas, more terrorism, more weapons smuggling into Gaza by Palestinian terrorists, including anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles and more aggression from Gaza and Lebanon.”

Klein received a loud ovation as he continued.

“I’m sick and tired of people talking about land for peace, more concession for peace, more funding for peace. It’s high time to tell the simple truth – the Arab world doesn’t want peace and never wanted peace with Israel. They want its destruction. The Palestinian Arabs were offered statehood in 1937, 1948 and 2000 and turned it down every time.”

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ZOA 95th Annual Convention

On November 19-20 2006, the Zionist Organization of America held its 95th National Convention concurrently with its Annual Dinner. National President Morton A. Klein and a slate of candidates for offices including National Board Chairman Dr. Michael Goldblatt, Chairman of the National Executive Committee Dr. Alan Mazurek, and Treasurer Henry Schwartz, were elected by the delegates, and the National Executive Committee and Administrative Board positions were approved.

The national officers: Michael Orbach, Vice Chairman, NEC; Taffy Gould, Vice Chairman, NEC; David Schoen, Esq., Associate Chairman, NEC; Dr. Michael Franzblau, Vice Chairman, National Board; Sylvia Freyer, Associate Chairman, National Board; Bart Blatstein, Associate Treasurer; Joseph Loshinsky, Chairman, Finance Committee; Dr. Jerome Kaufman, National Secretary; and Jacques Torczyner, Honorary President.

ZOA National Board Chairman of the Board Dr. Michael Goldblatt was the moderator for the convention. Edward M. Siegel, Esq., acted as parliamentarian for issues requiring votes and discussion. Dr. Jerome Kaufman opened the convention the first day with a moving D’var Torah.

The two-day Convention also included workshops promoting current ideas in activism, speeches from several prominent national pro-Israel activists, and meetings of several of ZOA’s internal committees.

Among the featured speakers were Kenneth Marcus, Esq., Staff Director of the US Commission on Civil Rights, Dr. Anne Bayefsky, senior fellow of the Hudson Institute and former professor of law at Columbia University, Dr. Charles Jacobs, founding president of The David Project, as well as ZOA’s own Morton Klein, Murray Tenenbaum, Susan Tuchman, and Rachel Glaser.

In a session on the first day of the Convention, Mort Klein reviewed ZOA’s achievements and highlights. Undeniably, the ZOA has become highly respected for its principled positions and for its accurate and cogent advocacy on behalf of Israel. ZOA speakers and opinions are in demand in the halls of Congress, the media, campuses, the Knesset and by other Jewish organizations and leaders.

Though those assembled did not need any reminders, Klein said, that ZOA “asks the tough questions, the serious questions” of Israeli leaders – a characteristic which sets ZOA apart from other groups.

Kenneth Marcus received the ZOA’s first Justice and Ethics Award. “It’s a great honor – particularly coming from Mort Klein, ZOA and the Center for Law and Justice,” he said. Speaking about the factors that are leading to anti-Israel and anti-Semitic activity on campuses, he noted that “the denial of the problem is itself a serious problem.” Such factors are: traditional European anti-Semitism, such as beliefs that Jews are power-hungry and control the media; Islamic and Arab dhimmitude, a system and values which want to treat Jews as second- and third-class citizens; “Arabism” – whose

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Convention speaker Dr. Anne Bayefsky, lambasted the United Nations for its incessant attacks on Israel and its insistence on focusing its human rights spotlight on the Jewish state. She noted that of the 10 “emergency sessions” called by the U.N. in its history, six have been to target Israel. In fact, technically these sessions never actually end, but are just called to “recess.”

According to Bayefsky, the U.N. considers the world’s worst human rights violators to be – in this order – Israel, Saddam Hussein and the United States. Because of this and other U.N. pronouncements and practices, she labeled that agency “a ‘fifth column’ right here in New York.” Polling has revealed that 45 percent of Americans do not realize that the U.N. is anti-Israel. To illustrate the bias, she noted that there has not been a single resolution introduced to condemn the constant shelling of the Israeli town of Sderot by Palestinian-Arabs in Gaza. It was imperative, Bayefsky stated, that we must work harder to inform the American public of this bias and expose the agency’s anti-Israel posture. Bayefsky went on to observe that “there is no real pressure being put on Iran, and the U.N. is the reason why.”

Next to speak was Dr. Charles Jacobs, founding president of The David Project. For his part, Jacobs said he was excited to once again address a ZOA convention since his part, Jacobs said he was excited to once again address a ZOA convention since
is a growing “perfect storm” of anti-Israel alliances forming, which he termed Palestinianism. This movement has brought together an illogical linkage between the Left and Muslims. The Left has given the Muslims a platform and guidance on how to organize. Jacobs added that even Nazism is rearing up again, presenting a multifaceted assault on those things that Western civilization holds dear.

Jacobs said that the so-called Jewish organizations are in fact involved in a host of causes outside of Israel and are not acknowledging the existential threat facing Israel. “The only person who told you otherwise is Mort Klein.”

Susan Tuchman, Esq., head of ZOA’s Center for Law and Justice (CLJ), noted in her speech the many varied achievements of the Center in the past year. Perhaps most notable were the achievements that affected Jewish students on campuses throughout the country. ZOA’s Center for Law and Justice, invoking Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, filed a complaint accusing UC Irvine of anti-Semitism, thinly disguised as anti-Zionism, in flagrant discrimination against Jewish students. The CLJ succeeded in getting religious-based discrimination considered under the Justice Department’s protections with regard to Title VI and Tuchman was invited to testify about the situation before the US Commission for Civil Rights.

Tuchman said the goal of these actions is “to empower Jewish students; to give them knowledge and information” so they would know that they have the right to be pro-Israel on the nation’s campuses.

She added that the Center for Law and Justice also filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case of an Egyptian Jewish family whose land was seized by the Egyptian government without compensation – land that the Coca-Cola company has since built a facility on without compensating the family. Consideration is being given to get Coca-Cola shareholders involved in this matter.

Murray Tenenbaum, ZOA’s Director of Government Relations, briefed delegates on the many changes in Washington as a result of the November elections, now that Democrats will control both houses of Congress. He reviewed the various incoming committee and sub-committee chairpersons and their attitudes toward Israel. He noted that ZOA has a good relationship with both political parties, and that we would continue to work closely with our friends on Capitol Hill on behalf of Israel’s security interests. Tenenbaum spoke proudly of ZOA’s role in helping to lobby on behalf of the Palestinian Anti-Terror Act, the Iran Freedom Support Act, and in helping to publicize the inherent weakness of UN Resolution 1701 that was adopted ending the most recent war in Lebanon, and the fact that Mahmoud Abbas, president of the PA, is not a moderate peace seeker but a Holocaust denier who promotes hatred and violence against Israel.

ZOA Campus Coordinator Rachel Glaser also spoke about the situation at our universities and colleges. She noted that anti-Israel activity is prevalent throughout the country and not confined to any one school or region. Asked to name some of the worst offenders, Glaser listed Columbia University, Cal Berkeley, Hunter College, Brown University, the University of Florida, Wayne State University – and Brandeis University. Countering this trend, ZOA’s Campus division has brought its speakers to numerous campuses and also sponsored a mission of 25 college students to Israel this past year, and co-sponsored another. Finally, ZOA has frequently distributed pro-Israel literature, as well as its new college publication The College Zionist, to campuses nationwide.

Steve Feldman, executive director of the Greater Philadelphia ZOA District, gave a talk about local activism, encouraging ZOA delegates from around the country to be pro-active in support of Israel and enumerating and explaining a variety of programs and events they could spearhead in their districts and regions. These include rallies, leafletting and even a weekly radio show.

Following a report on the ZOA resolutions adopted and a financial report, Morton Klein gave a riveting speech on the importance of staying the course, and pursuing the truth in articulating the cause of a strong Israel, making it clear that the truth is on Israel’s side. Mort also expressed his gratitude for the great honor of working with the great staff and lay leaders of the ZOA fighting for the Jewish people.

The two-day National Convention, wrapped around another successful Annual Dinner that featured some of the most prominent names in the Jewish world – Zuckerman, Lauder, Tisch, et al, was again evidence of an organization whose commitment to the Jewish State of Israel’s survival and prosperity remains second to none.
The recently published 83-page so-called study “The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy” by the University of Chicago’s John Mearsheimer and Harvard’s Stephen Walt makes a fundamental claim – that the US has given “unwavering support” to Israel. This is demonstrably untrue. History shows that while the US record on Israel is better than that of any other country, it still is quite mixed.

For example, the US actually imposed an arms embargo during Israel’s 1948-49 war of survival against six Arab nations. In the 1950’s, when the US was refusing to supply Israel with fighter planes, France became the supplier to Israel of critically needed Mirage aircraft.

In 1956, Israel conquered the Sinai from the Egyptians following six years of constant attacks by terrorist bands (fedayeen) sponsored by Egypt. Nonetheless, the Eisenhower administration insisted on Israel withdrawing completely from Sinai without any peace treaty or recognition demanded from Egypt and threatened Israel with sanctions if it failed to comply.

In 1967, Egypt imposed a blockade on Israel’s southern port at Eilat. Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban asked President Johnson to honor US commitments made in 1957 to ensure free passage of Israeli shipping and break the blockade. Johnson refused.

The US supported UN Security Council ceasefire resolutions that prevented a bigger defeat for the Arab belligerents in the Six Day War and when Israel was attacked by Egypt and Syria in 1973 the US pressured Israel into ending the war prematurely when Israeli forces were on the road to Damascus and Cairo. This again prevented Israel from reaping a more decisive military victory.

During the Carter administration, the US voted for UN Security Council resolutions calling on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon following an Israeli incursion in 1978 – despite the fact Lebanon had been the launching pad for major terrorist attacks on Israel – and condemning Israel’s annexation of eastern Jerusalem.

Annual US aid to Israel rose from some $700 million to $3 billion after the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty only to make up for Israel relinquishing over $2 billion in annual revenue Israel was receiving from Sinai oil wells it had developed and ceded to Egypt.

The US condemned Israel’s 1981 air strike against Saddam Hussein’s nuclear reactor at Osirak even though a nuclear-armed Saddam would have been a mortal threat to Israel.

The Reagan administration not only sold surveillance planes to Saudi Arabia despite strong protest from Israel and pro-Israel groups in America, but also held up arms supplies for several months when Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin rejected the Reagan peace plan as “national suicide” for Israel.

Successive US administrations have opposed Israeli settlement in the territories in 1967 leading to tensions and crisis in the relationship. In 1992 the first Bush administration withheld loan guarantees to Israel in protest of Israeli settlement policies. The first Bush administration also insisted on convening the Madrid Peace Conference in 1991, despite deep Israeli misgivings and opposition.

During the Oslo peace process (1993-2000), the Clinton administration often pressured Israel to make one-sided concessions of territory, arms, assets and release of imprisoned Palestinian terrorists while ignoring Palestinian failure to comply with its obligations to stop terrorism and end the incitement to hatred and murder that feeds it. Securing new agreements was preferred to holding Palestinians to past ones, as US chief negotiator Dennis Ross subsequently admitted.

Far from giving Israel unconditional or unqualified support in the midst of a terrorist offensive against it, both the Clinton and Bush administrations regularly criticized as excessive, provocative and unhelpful legitimate Israeli counter-terrorism measures, including roadblocks, withholding revenues from the PA and targeting terrorists – all measures that have been utilized by the US in the war on radical Islamic terrorism.

Both President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell criticized Israel’s killing of Hamas terrorist leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, describing it as “deeply troubling” and calling for “maximum restraint.”

The US has criticized Israel’s security fence and both Bush and Powell pressured Israel to curtail military incursions against terrorist strongholds, most notably during Israel’s offensive in Jenin in 2002.

Despite US understanding that the PA has been a haven and launching pad for terrorists, the Bush administration continued to pressure Israel to resume negotiations and make concessions to the PA. Most significantly – and despite Israeli objections on 14 points – the US joined the EU, UN and Russia in endorsing the 2003 Road Map peace plan, which seeks further Israeli concessions.

In fact, speaking to a pro-Israel audience at the AIPAC policy conference shortly after the Road Map was introduced, then-National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice publicly demanded that Israel accept it, fundamentally ignoring Israeli reservations on matters of vital interests.

Finally, despite US law, both the Clinton and Bush administrations have used successive presidential waivers to defer re-locating the US embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. In this context, the Clinton administration also refused to veto Security Council resolutions repudiating Israeli authority in Jerusalem.

Although US support for Israel has been important, it certainly has not been “unwavering.” The fundamental premise of Mearsheimer and Walt’s error ridden report – that American Jews and others have been successful in forcing total, unequivocal US support for Israel – is thus simply untrue.
**ZOA’s ADVOCACY MISSION TO CAPITOL HILL**  
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**ZOA / AFSI MISSION TO ISRAEL**  
**MAY 13 – 21, 2007**  

**THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RE-UNIFICATION OF JERUSALEM TAKES PLACE THIS MAY 16, 2007**  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA/ZOA AND THE AMERICANS FOR A SAFE ISRAEL/AFSI WILL BE THERE TO CELEBRATE  

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In addition to exploring Jerusalem and rejoicing in YOM YERUSHALAYIM, the ZOA/AFSI Chizuk mission will spend Shabbat, May 18/19 in Elon Moreh and visit Hevron, as well as many of the other threatened communities in Judea and Samaria. We will travel to the Gush Katif refugees in the Negev, and meet with grass-roots leaders throughout the country. This promises to be another unforgettable mission. Don’t miss out on this rare opportunity to experience the REAL Israel.  

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The Zionist Organization of America has condemned former President Jimmy Carter’s latest book, *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*, as the latest in decades of attacks upon Israel by the former President.

ZOA National President Morton A. Klein said, “Jimmy Carter’s inaccurate, shallow and vicious book is unfortunately what we have come to expect from this most mediocre of modern presidents. The book is not only riddled with factual errors and distortions fully in keeping with Carter’s long-standing bias against Israel and preference for neighboring Arab dictatorships, but even manages to malign Israel in its title, as Israel is a democracy that extends full civil rights to its non-Jewish citizens, not a minority, racist regime like apartheid South Africa. The title seems to have been maliciously chosen to harm Israel’s reputation in the minds of anyone who merely sees the book’s cover, because even Carter admits in the book that the situation in Israel ‘is unlike that in South Africa.’

“Carter’s animus against Israel has been confirmed from many reliable quarters. His Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, once revealed that if Carter had won a second term, he intended to sell Israel down the river. In *The Unfinished Presidency*, Douglas Brinkley writes, ‘There was no world leader Jimmy Carter was more eager to know than Yasir Arafat,’ whom he befriended already in 1990, three years before Arafat supposedly accepted Israel’s right to exist and signed the Oslo Accords. But what would you expect from someone who won a prize from Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan of the United Arab Emirates whose Zayed Center for Coordination and Follow-Up has promoted Holocaust denial?

Melvin Konner, MD, PhD, Dobbs Professor of Anthropology and Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at Emory University and a former strong admirer of Carter, who had been asked to be part of an academic group meant to advise the former president and the Carter Center on how to respond to criticism of the book, declined the invitation after reading the book, saying, “I cannot find any way to read this sentence that does not condone the murder of Jews until such time as Israel unilaterally follows President Carter’s prescription for peace. The sentence, simply put, makes President Carter an apologist for terrorists and places my children, along with all Jews everywhere, in greater danger” (*New York Post*, January 15, 2007).

ZOA National President Morton A. Klein further commented, “This is a matter that goes beyond offensive views or distortions or falsehoods in President Carter’s book. Here is a former US president condoning the on-going murder of Israeli Jews by Palestinian Arab terrorists. The resignation of 14 Carter Center board members and the devastating

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THERE ARE MANY REASONS TO SUPPORT THE ZOA PICTURED HERE ARE A FEW MORE.

It’s the one thing that Hizballah, Hamas, Fatah and their sponsor Muslim regimes have in common: an ideology that preaches a genocidal war against the Jews. The Arab indoctrination of its youth to hatred – in preschools, classrooms, summer camps and throughout the media – has shaped the current Arab war against Israel. No less, this glorification of jihad, death, and martyrdom defines and determines the future war against the Jews. ZOA fights to make certain that it is a war that must not be ignored.

Palestinian Authority (PA) president, Mahmoud Abbas, often mistakenly regarded as a “moderate,” has explicitly praised the Lebanese Islamist terrorist group, Hizballah, for its hostilities with Israel, saying that it is a source of pride and sets an example for what he termed the “Arab resistance” (Jerusalem Post, August 6, 2006). Shortly after the lethal rocket attacks against Israeli towns, he stated that Hizballah reawakened the Arab world with honor (Israel National News, August 8, 2006). Hizballah says it will never recognize Israel and believes it should be destroyed along with all Jews. As Hizballah’s Hassan Nasrallah has said, “If they [Jews] all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide.” (The Daily Star, October 23, 2002). Nasrallah also referred to Israel recently as a “temporary country” (Associated Press, July 29, 2006). A poll by Near East Consulting, a Ramallah-based data analysis firm, shows that virtually the entire Palestinian Arab population – 97% of those polled – support the Hizballah terrorists. This position is also held by 95% of Christian Palestinian Arabs as well. Over 90% of the Palestinian Arabs said that kidnapped Israeli soldiers should not be freed unconditionally while 55% said they identified with Hizballah’s goal of destroying Israel (Israel National News, August 8, 2006).

ZOA National President Morton A. Klein said, “There can be few things that more clearly expose the myth of Mahmoud Abbas’ supposed moderation than his statement of support of and admiration for Hizballah. “Abbas’ words of praise for Hizballah should not surprise anyone, because he has previously described Palestinian terrorists wanted by Israel as ‘heroes’ (Age [Melbourne], January 3, 2005). Abbas’ frequent statements extolling Hizballah is but a further example of his unreformed extremism and underscores why he is no peace partner for Israel.

“Similarly, polls showing near-total support for Hizballah from Palestinians indicates that it is not only the Palestinian leadership that is part of the problem, but Palestinian society in general. It is often suggested that Palestinians really want a reasonable peace settlement with Israel but are led by extremists, but the polls prove this to be untrue. These polls confirm that the Palestinian leadership faithfully reflects the attitude of Palestinians.”

And certainly vice-versa.
ZOA 95th Annual Convention

Morton A. Klein and Dinner Co-Chair Ronald S. Lauder

(L to R) ZOA Chairman of the NEC Dr. Alan Mazurek; Past Brandeis Award recipient Martin Gross presenting ZOA’s Ben Hecht Award to Itamar Marcus; ZOA President Morton A. Klein

Joseph Loshinsky, Chairman of ZOA’s Finance Committee, with Ed Ames, ZOA West Coast President

Morton A. Klein and Mortimer B. Zuckerman, this year’s Justice Louis D. Brandeis Award recipient
R. James Woolsey, former CIA Director

Dinner Co-Chair James S. Tisch

Long-time ZOA activists Judy and Jerome Taylor, Esq.

Michael Orbach, past Brandeis Award recipient and Vice Chairman, NEC

(l to r) NEC Chairman Dr. Alan Mazurek; Chairman of the Board Dr. Michael Goldblatt presenting ZOA’s Distinguished Leadership Award to Kenneth Abramowitz; Nina Abramowitz; President Morton A. Klein
Rosalyn and Stephen Flatow, Esq.

Congressman Anthony Weiner (D-NY) gives a warm greeting to President Morton A. Klein

Carl and Sylvia Freyer, both past Brandeis Award recipients, reciting Hamotzi

Pari and Henry Schwartz, with ZOA Board Chairman Dr. Michael Goldblatt

Eli Hertz, past Brandeis Award recipient, and his wife Marilyn

(l to r) Ronald S. Lauder and Kenneth Bialkin, past presidents of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations

Jerry Kaufman and his niece

Sander Gerber, AIPAC Board Member and CEO of Hudson Bay Capital Mgmt., with Andrew Neff, top Forbes-ranked stock analyst

ZOA Board Member Jay Knoff with Dror Vanunu, Head of Public Relations for Gush Katif

Cantor and Mrs. Joseph Malovany, with the noted Dr. Ruth Westheimer
ZOA Campus Activism Network Update

The ZOA Campus Activism Network (ZOA CAN) staff organized various programs on college campuses nationwide during the fall semester, 2006.

On the west coast, the ZOA arranged four speaking engagements on campuses for Gadi Goldwasser, the brother of Israeli soldier Ehud Goldwasser who was kidnapped by Hizbollah on July 12, 2006. Goldwasser spoke to the Jewish Law Students Association, the Jewish MBA student organization at University of Southern California, as well as at Hillel and Chabad during their Shabbat dinners. Moreover, ZOA’s UCLA student chapter hosted Goldwasser for an informative discussion, covered in UCLA student newspaper The Daily Bruin.

Another program at UCLA, coordinated by the ZOA-UCLA chapter, featured the screening of Suicide Killers, a documentary directed and produced by Pierre Rehov. Rehov, the French-Israeli filmmaker, was present at the program to discuss the film and to answer questions from the audience. Co-sponsored by the ZOA, Bruin Republicans, and Bruins for Israel, the program was attended by over 80 students and received favorable press coverage in The Daily Bruin.

ZOA National Speakers Bureau

The ZOA National Speakers Bureau sent speakers to campuses across the country. Edward Siegel, Esq., member of the ZOA’s National Board, lectured at Columbia Law School; Dr. Daniel Mandel, Director of the ZOA Center for Middle East Policy, spoke at Boston University; Robert Friedman, ZOA activist, addressed students at Colby College; Robert Spencer, director of Jihad Watch, spoke to students and community members at Ohio State University in conjunction with the Schottenstein Chabad House; Philadelphia ZOA director Steve Feldman spoke at Temple; and National Board member Howard Scharf, Esq. spoke at Colby.

Adopt-A-Soldier Program

The ZOA CAN’s Adopt-A-Soldier program, where college students are paired with a current IDF soldier for correspondence, was expanded this past semester. Three new initiatives were implemented. The ZOA will work with students to create care packages to send to IDF units; the ZOA is creating student videos comprised of messages of support for soldiers; and the ZOA introduced a “Jump for Israel” fundraiser during the fall semester in conjunction with Queens College Hillel. This program, which had its debut with students from the New York area, is an initiative in which students sky dive in order to raise money for Friends of the IDF and to show their support for Israeli soldiers.

Israel Revealed

A new program created by the ZOA CAN, called Israel Revealed, is a collection of PowerPoint presentations created by the ZOA. The interactive multi-media presentations, delivered on college campuses, present students with an opportunity to learn about Israel in a creative fashion. Israel Revealed includes PowerPoint presentations on a number of topics including: “Human Rights in Israel,” “The History of Israel,” and “Israel’s Advancements in Medicine and Technology.” ZOA CAN has presented these PowerPoint presentations on many campuses.

Jewish Ethiopian Speaker

ZOA CAN is bringing a Jewish speaker from Ethiopia to American campuses to speak about Israel’s role in the humanitarian cause of rescuing Ethiopian Jewry from Ethiopia and bringing them safely to Israel. This speaker will be delivering several lectures in February in conjunction with Black History month. Rutgers University and Cornell University have both hosted successful programs with this speaker in conjunction with the ZOA.

Student Campaign for Captured Israeli Soldiers

ZOA CAN organized a campaign to send 10,000 postcards to both the United Nations and the International Red Cross. These postcards, which included photos of captured Israeli soldiers Gilad Shalit, Ehud Goldwasser, and Eldad Regev, urged the UN and the International Red Cross to do everything in their power to achieve the safe return of these soldiers. Students on campuses nationwide are participating in this campaign by distributing and mailing these postcards to the UN and the Red Cross. To get copies of the postcards, email campus@zoa.org.

The College Zionist

The ZOA published and distributed the second edition of its student publication, The College Zionist. This publication, launched by ZOA's
Campus Director Julie Sager, included articles from students at Northwestern University, Brandeis University, Yeshiva University, University of California, Santa Barbara, Boston University, and Harvard Law School. Articles included an interview with Former IDF Chief-of-Staff Moshe Yaalon, an analysis questioning the neutrality of the United Nations, a report on the rise of radical Islam, and reflections on the aftermath of the Gaza withdrawal. Fifteen-thousand copies of *The College Zionist* are being distributed on college campuses nationwide, and the magazine is also online at: www.thecollegezionist.org.

### ZOA Combats Anti-Israel Activities

The ZOA CAN protested a number of anti-Israel events on college campuses. The ZOA attended and distributed fact sheets at an anti-Israel event at Columbia University. ZOA also brought activists to the program to help disseminate materials; included among the activists were former Israel soldiers. The ZOA presence at this event and documentation of the event helped elucidate the inaccuracies imbedded in the speaker’s presentation. At a book signing for the anti-Israel book written by former president Jimmy Carter, ZOA representatives distributed flyers and leaflets to numerous attendees. ZOA leadership and activists also attended several rallies on the east and west coasts in response to the Hizbollah’s war with Israel. In addition, ZOA members attended rallies and conferences on the subject of Iran’s infamous Holocaust Denial Conference.

### Student Leadership at the ZOA Dinner

The ZOA allocated fifty seats for college students at the ZOA annual Justice Louis D. Brandeis Dinner in New York City in November 2006. Students from universities including George Washington University, Columbia University, New York University, Rutgers University, Hofstra University, Hunter College, Queens College, Baruch College, and Yeshiva University were in attendance. During the dinner, students networked with one another, met and connected with ZOA CAN student and staff members, and learned more about the ZOA and pro-Israel activism on campus.

### Campus Affairs

Julie Sager, ZOA Director of Campus Activities, spoke at a Young Leadership Event at the Orange County Jewish Federation on December 12, 2006. A documentary about hate speech on campus was screened, and Sager represented the ZOA on a panel following the film. She spoke about anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism on college campuses and discussed how the ZOA is at the forefront of combating these problems. Sager mentioned that the ZOA filed a complaint under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act on behalf of students at UC Irvine and the ongoing federal investigation triggered by the complaint. She also discussed and distributed the US Civil Rights Commission Findings and Recommendations, which recognize that universities have a duty to speak out and condemn anti-Semitic speech and conduct against Jews and Israel. The Commission also recognizes that Jewish students should be protected from anti-Semitism under Title VI, thereby endorsing the legal tool that the ZOA used to protect Jewish students at UC Irvine. Sager emphasized the important work of Susan Tuchman, Director of the ZOA’s Center for Law and Justice in initiating the effort that led to these groundbreaking findings and recommendations.

### ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel 2007

The January 2007 ZOA Student Leadership Mission to Israel included twenty-one students from around the US who spent two weeks with the ZOA learning pro-Israel advocacy skills, meeting with Israeli officials, and traveling to holy and historical sites. Highlights included meetings with former IDF Chief-of-Staff Moshe Yaalon, Kedumim Mayor Daniella Weiss, David Bdeen from the Israel Resource News Agency, Itamar Marcus, Director of Palestinian Media Watch, and Khalid Abu Tomeh, an Arab journalist for the *Jerusalem Post*. The ZOA students also visited a base and met with soldiers from an elite IDF unit.

The trip included a comprehensive tour of areas in northern Israel that were affected by Hizbollah rocket attacks during the second Lebanon War. Students traveled to Haifa, meeting with a city council member, to Nahariya to meet firefighters who were instrumental in saving lives during the war, and met with the parents of Ehud Goldwasser, one of the kidnapped Israeli soldiers. In the north, the ZOA mission participants met with students from Haifa University and discussed the anti-Israel propaganda that takes place at Haifa University.

(continued on page 19)
The report issued by the Iraq Study Group, headed by former secretary of state James Baker and former congressman Lee Hamilton, urges President Bush to adopt policies that amount to ignoring 13 years of Palestinian terrorism, incitement to hatred and murder of Israelis by the Palestinian Authority (PA) and failed concessionary Israeli policies, while at the same time calling for even more Israeli concessions to the Hamas/PA regime.

The report’s recommendations would also cripple US efforts to fight the war on Islamist terrorist groups, encourage terrorists world-wide, end discussions of economic sanctions and military action against Iran if it continues to develop nuclear weapons, and legitimize the terrorist-sponsoring regimes of Iran and Syria.

The report claims that America “will not be able to achieve its goals in the Middle East unless the United States deals directly with the Arab-Israeli conflict” – but the Middle East’s problems of lack of freedom and democracy, the promotion of terrorism and the sectarian war and terrorism in Iraq have nothing to do with Israel.

Rather, the bloodshed in Iraq is abetted by regimes (Iran, Syria) and groups (Al Qaeda) that are implacably opposed to the US, democracy and the non-Muslim world. Neither their hostility to the US nor the terrorist campaign in Iraq would be deterred by an Arab-Israeli peace agreement or even by the non-existence of the state of Israel.

Baker/Hamilton seeks “A Syrian commitment to help obtain from Hamas an acknowledgment of Israel’s right to exist,” but this absurdly ignores the fact that Hamas is dedicated in its charter to the destruction of Israel and the murder of Jews and that Syria itself does not recognize Israel or even acknowledge its existence on its official maps.

The report also claims: “The only basis on which peace can be achieved is that set forth in UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and in the principle of ‘land for peace.’ ” But “land for peace” has been tried and has failed – under the Oslo peace process (1993-2000) and afterward, Israel ceded to the PA half of Judea and Samaria and all of Gaza, only to receive in return more terrorism and the election of Hamas.

And the report calls for a two-state solution – but the issue is not Palestinian statehood or borders, it’s the existence of Israel, which the Palestinian Arabs do not accept. Statehood has been offered several times to Palestinian Arabs, most recently in 2000 by Ehud Barak and Bill Clinton, who proposed giving them 97 percent of Judea and Samaria, all of Gaza, statehood and more – but the PA turned it down.

Additionally, not only did the PA make no counter-offer, but it launched the terrorist war in September 2000 that has killed almost 2,000 Israelis and wounded and maimed 15,000 more. Since 2000, successive polls have shown consistently high Palestinian support for the use of terrorism against Israeli civilians, even if a Palestinian state with a capital in east Jerusalem were to be created. For Palestinian Arabs, destroying Israel trumps statehood.

Especially with the election of Hamas this past year, a Palestinian state set up now would simply be another terrorist state.

The Baker/Hamilton Report goes further than any US government has gone by calling for negotiations “which would address … the right of return” (the legally baseless Palestinian demand whereby Palestinian refugees and their millions of descendants would inundate Israel and end Israel as a Jewish state) and for supporting “moderates” like PA president Mahmoud Abbas – despite the fact that the PA under Abbas has not fulfilled its commitments under signed agreements with Israel and also the 2003 Road Map peace plan to fight, arrest, extradite and jail terrorists, confiscate their weaponry and end the incitement to hatred and murder in the PA-controlled media, mosques, schools and youth camps that feeds terrorism.

Abbas recently stated that neither Hamas nor Fatah is required to extend official recognition to Israel and he reaffirmed his commitment to “the legacy” of Arafat.

The report contends that peace efforts should include “Support for a Palestinian national unity government” of Fatah and Hamas. In fact, however, both groups in their respective charters call for Israel’s destruction (Fatah: Article 12; Hamas, Article 15) and the use of terrorism (Fatah: Article 19; Hamas: Article 7). Baker/Hamilton is also significant for what it omits. It never mentions the PA’s Oslo/Road Map commitments and their on-going violation. It omits mention of the proven unwillingness of the Syrian regime to make peace with Israel in 2000 – when then-Israeli Prime Minister Barak offered Syria the whole Golan Heights in exchange for a peace treaty which Syria did not accept – yet calls for Israel to return the Golan Heights in exchange for peace.

The report urges the US to engage with Iran and Syria in the belief that both regimes can assist US efforts to stabilize Iraq. This would mean allowing Iran to develop nuclear weapons and Syria taking over Lebanon again. It is therefore not surprising that the report has been received in the Arab world as foreshadowing “the end of America” (Mustafa Bakri, editor, Egyptian newspaper Al-Oshou’ ) and the “loss of its reputation and credibility in the region” (Abdel Moneim Said, head of Cairo’s Al-Ahram Center for Political & Strategic Studies). Terrorists have welcomed it as proof that “this is the era of Islam and of jihad” (Abu Ayman, Palestinian Islamic Jihad).

The Baker/Hamilton Report is one of the most irrational, nonsensical and dangerously naïve pieces of policy recommendations that has ever seen the light of day. Its implementation would do irreparable harm to the war against Islamist terrorism, which is the most important challenge we face since the war against the Nazis.

The ZOA responded with its own analysis of the Baker/Hamilton Report and distributed it to all members of Congress, throughout the electronic and printed media, and to all Jewish and pro-Israel organizations. A copy of the ZOA response can be found at http://www.zoa.org/Baker
We have a legitimate right to direct our guns against Israeli occupation ... Our rifles, all our rifles are aimed at The Occupation.

– PA President Mahmoud Abbas

Palestinian Authority (PA) president Mahmoud Abbas, in speech to a rally of his Fatah supporters, called on Palestinians to stop killing each other and to murder Israeli Jews instead. Addressing a huge rally of 250,000 in Ramallah in honor of the 42nd anniversary of the terrorist Fatah party which he co-founded with arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat, Abbas called for Palestinians to turn their guns and rifles on Israeli Jews.

PEOPLE CALL MAHMOUD ABBAS A “MODERATE” & “PEACEMAKER”
WE DISAGREE. HERE’S THE EVIDENCE. IN HIS OWN WORDS.

ZOA CONDEMONS
JIMMY CARTER’S
ANTI-ISRAEL BOOK
(continued from page 9)
criticism of Carter and his book by Melvin Konner simply show that the bias and malice that drives Jimmy Carter is obvious even to people who once greatly admired him and served proudly on the board of the Carter Center. It is noteworthy that the liberal national group of Reform rabbis, the Central Conference of Reform Rabbis, has cancelled their plan to visit the Carter Center during their upcoming convention in Atlanta. Now that he has explicitly justified the murder of Israeli lives at the hands of Palestinian Arab terrorists, he should be shunned by universities, organizations, media, synagogues and churches and organizations and not granted any sort of platform to peddle his lies and hate propaganda.”
**GAZA Resolution Passes at World Zionists Congress**

The Zionist Organization of America’s delegation to the 35th World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem in June 2006, debating critical political, religious and educational issues affecting the Jewish people, included Morton Klein, Lewish Dashe, the Hon. Alfred Kleiman, Steven Orlow, Dr. Michael Franzblau, and Rubin Margules. The ZOA was successful in formulating and getting approved a resolution to help the Gush Katif (Gaza) Evacuees.

The resolution, recognizing that “the issue of their settlement and their compensation has not yet been completed” and “placing the onus upon the Jewish community and the Government of Israel to take responsibility to help them,” called on the government of Israel “to continue and to assist the rehabilitation and relocation in all matters concerning housing, employment and personal and communal welfare for the Jews of Gaza.”

**Around the Country**

Mort Klein once again traveled the country promoting the case for a strong and secure Israel. In October 2006 Mort participated in a 3 day pro-Israel Conference in Savannah, GA that brought together hundreds of American supporters of Israel with Israeli leaders and spokesmen, including members of Knesset Limor Livnat and Yuval Steinitz, former Prime Ministerial spokesman Raanan Gissin, former IDF chief Moshe Ya’alon and a number of prominent Christian leaders from throughout the US. Mort also addressed a large Israel Bonds gathering in Riverdale, New York, delivered a speech at a major program in New Rochelle, NY that was moderated by Ethan Bronner, Foreign Editor of *The New York Times*, and spoke at the Yardley Country Club in Pennsylvania.

Mort Klein attended Congressman Brad Sherman’s wedding in Malibu, CA and also attended a White House and an Israel Embassy event honoring Natan Sharansky. In New York, Mort delivered the keynote address to a large crowd at the annual dinner for Israeli Minister Benny Elson’s Beit Orot Yeshiva in Jerusalem.

Our op-eds, letters and quotes have appeared in newspapers and magazines throughout the US and Israel, and we continue to appear on TV and radio regularly. Numerous ZOA people have penned these pieces including Dr. Michael Goldblatt, Dr. Michael Franzblau, Dr. Jerry Kaufman, and Julie Sager.

**Philadelphia**

The Greater Philadelphia District hosted a screening of the documentary “Obsession” at The International House, a center and residence for foreign students attending the University of Pennsylvania. Following the film, ZOA hosted an interfaith panel discussion featuring a rabbi born in Egypt, a Christian pastor who had recently been in Israel and Darfur, and district president Lori Lowenthal Marcus. ZOA Philadelphia also presented a seminar on Israel, the Middle East and the “peace process” at Cheltenham High School, the American high school that both Yonatan and Benjamin Netanyahu attended. “The ZOA Middle East Report” radio show (which you can hear or download from anywhere in the world at www.zoaphilly.org) continues to attract great guests. Recent participants include Dr. Moshe Arens, Dr. Daniel Pipes, *Jerusalem Post* columnist Herb Keinon, Bangladeshi journalist Shoaib Coudhry and his American advocate Dr. Richard Benkin, Prof. Alan Dershowitz, Clifford May, president of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, columnist Joel Mowbray, Gen. Yaakov Amidror, Matt Brooks, executive director of the republican Jewish Coalition, Ira Forman, executive director of the National Jewish Democratic Council and Nonie Darwish, a founder of ArabsForIsrael.com, and Islam experts Robert Spencer and Andrew Bostom.

The ZOA continues to hold its counter-demonstration every Friday in front of the Israeli Consulate to bring the truth to those misled by a regular anti-Israel protest across the street.

Executive director Steve Feldman recently spoke to a Jewish War Veterans Post and Ladies Auxiliary, at a Conservative synagogue in Philadelphia, and at Temple University.


**Los Angeles**

ZOA condemned the United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA) for agreeing to host a racist, anti-Israel political campaign calling for economic sanctions, boycotts and divestments against the Jewish state. The ZOA effort led the UTLA to deny use of its headquarters to the event planned by the UTLA Human Rights Committee and the LA Chapter of Movement for a Democratic Society.

ZOA protested the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission for selecting Maher Hatout, chairman of the Islamic Center of Southern California, for its annual humanitarian award. Hatout had criticized Israel, made anti-American comments, and statements of support of Hamas. In response to radio spots made by actor Mike Farrell supporting the Muslim extremist and attacking ZOA, ZOA made its own radio commercial featuring ZOA’s LA Regional board president Ed Ames, well-known actor and singer, condemning the Human Rights Commission’s decision to present the award to someone who outspokenly supports a terrorist organization.

A regional board meeting in December 2006 featured as guest speaker Dr. Paul Ekman, noted psychologist and former professor of psychology at University of San Francisco and currently a consultant to the US Department of Homeland Security.

The Los Angeles Regional Office sponsored a program “Christian Zionists Speak Out for Israel” featuring pro-Israel activists David Brog, executive director of Christians United for Israel (CUFI) and its California director, Pastor Victor Styrsky. LA ZOA also sponsored a program featuring speaker Raphaella Segal, a founding member of the community of Kedumim in Samaria.

In November, ZOA had a booth at the 2006 General Assembly of United Jewish Communities / the Federations of North America in Los Angeles. The UJC/Federation event, which highlights the connection between the Israeli and North American Jewish communities, provided ZOA with the opportunity to promote its programs.

**Youngstown**

The Youngstown District held its annual fundraiser Justice Louis D. Brandeis and K’far Silver Scholarship program honoring Bonnie Duetsch Burdman, director of the JCRC of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.

(continued on page 21)
ZOA’s Legal Director, Susan Tuchman, Chosen One Of “Top 50 Influencial Jews”

The Zionist Organization of America is pleased and proud to announce that its Director of ZOA’s Center for Law & Justice has been chosen by the Forward newspaper as one of the “50 most influential members of the Jewish community.”

This is the twelfth time in the past 13 years that someone from ZOA has been so honored.

The following is the Forward’s description of Ms. Tuchman’s work.

Susan Tuchman

“Susan Tuchman scored a significant victory for the Zionist Organization of America when the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights agreed to investigate the 2004 complaint she filed against the University of California, Irvine, alleging a pattern of anti-Semitism on the Orange County campus. It was the first case of anti-Jewish harassment on an American college campus to win a formal government probe. As Jewish students on such campuses as Columbia University and the University of California, Berkeley, charged that professors were stifling pro-Israel voices in the classroom and intimidating them into silence, Tuchman, a Boston litigator before becoming director of the ZOA’s Center for Law & Justice in 2003, was the first to put legal teeth into Jewish organizations’ warnings of rising anti-Israel sentiment in university classrooms. Tuchman later testified at a November 2005 hearing convened by a separate office, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, to air allegations of anti-Semitism both inside and outside of the classroom. The result of that hearing was a groundbreaking set of findings and recommendations released this past spring, which concluded that Jewish students are protected under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, a federal anti-discrimination statute that bars discrimination on the basis of national origin.”

ZOA President Morton A. Klein said, “We are proud and honored to have Susan as an integral member of our team. From day one at ZOA, she has immersed herself in work to benefit the Jewish students on campus. Her deeply caring, sincere, and warm personality has endeared her to young college students. The relationships she has forged have given her the knowledge and insights of the anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic issues students face at many of our most important campuses. I have met few people in the Jewish communal world with Susan’s determination and commitment to help Israel and the Jewish people. Her love of Israel is unsurpassed and all of us at ZOA are privileged to be working with her.”

ZOA Activism Network

(continued from page 15)

In Judea and Samaria, students visited Hevron, Rachel’s Tomb, and Elon Moreh. They met with students at the College of Judea and Samaria in Ariel, and its director of the Middle Eastern department, who spoke with the ZOA student group on the threat from Iran. The ZOA group spent a Shabbat in Efrat, where Rabbi Shlomo Riskin addressed the group, and toured Kfar Etzion with one of the original pioneers of the kibbutz.

ZOA Israel shaliach Dror Elner and ZOA Campus Coordinator Rachel Glaser led educational workshops that taught students about the ZOA, Israeli history, and techniques to combat anti-Israel activities on college campus, build coalitions, and how to run pro-Israel activities on campus.

The ZOA Student Leadership Mission volunteered some time to working a soup kitchen in Jerusalem, met with evacuees from Gush Katif and worked in the greenhouses near Nitzan that belong to farmers evacuated from Gush Katif. They visited the One Family Fund offices, an organization that provides direct financial, emotional, material, and legal assistance to the victims of terrorism in Israel, where each student donated funds to this organization. The group met with the father of Koby Mandel who was brutally murdered by Arab ter-
To say that Dr. Michael Franzblau has his work cut out for him, as a Zionist in the San Francisco Bay Area, is quite an understatement.

Franzblau, a lifelong Zionist and Vice-Chairman of the ZOA’s National Board of Directors, keeps his chin up, tries to gain adherents to the view that Israel is in the right and presses on in one of the most liberal regions of the country.

Franzblau, a generous supporter of ZOA, lives in San Rafael, Calif., in Marin County. He notes that “The Bay Area is ultra-liberal, and unfriendly for Jews who are committed to Israel and supportive of Israel.” But don’t blame the air or the sea, he says, since “most people came here from someplace else.”

This is true of Franzblau himself. A native of Detroit and a graduate of the University of Michigan and its medical school who moved to this area some 50 years ago, he is constantly advocating for Israel among colleagues, communal leaders and even students.

Franzblau is a world renowned dermatologist and clinical professor of dermatology at the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine, which brings him in contact with many medical professionals and students. He sees his advocacy for Israel and ZOA paying off almost every day.

He relates that recently another dermatologist, who had once curtly rejected Franzblau’s pro-Israel sentiments and refused to hear any condemnation of Israel’s “disengagement” from the Gaza Strip and four towns in northern Samaria, “came up to me and apologized.”

But unlike his fellow doctor, Franzblau’s feelings for a Jewish state are by no means recent. “I became a Zionist in 1939 at the time of my Bar Mitzvah,” he notes. “I am the son of two magnificent human beings – a mother and father committed to Zionism since the 1920s.”

For a long time, Franzblau allows, he was a Labor Zionist and grew up in the Habonim movement. “It took me 40 years to see the truth – that the Zionist Organization of America position is reflective of my political philosophy.”

His task of opening the eyes of other Jews in his area, may be more than a simple matter.

Asked about Zionism in San Francisco, Franzblau says regretfully: “There are a large number of Jews in this area who are anti-Israel.” He believes that to a large extent, this is due to “a very well-organized and very well-funded” effort by Arabs and their supporters in the region. It certainly doesn’t help that the area’s Anglo-Jewish newspaper is far-Left, as are too many of the Jewish organizations.

Franzblau recalls an event sponsored by a young couples division of an organization where he spoke on a panel along with liberal Knesset Member Yossi Beilin. Thank goodness the ZOA spokesman was there to advocate for a strong and secure Israel.

Dr. Franzblau, who is an expert on Nazi medical atrocities, was recently in Israel, where he attended the World Zionist Congress and also spent a week as a lecturer at Yad Vashem.

He has been particularly active on the college campuses, where pro-Arab groups are quite active. Franzblau has been quite effective in encouraging those pro-Israel Jewish students who would otherwise be too intimidated to raise their voices. Franzblau has reached out to students to “make sure we are represented” in all forums on campus. He notes: “I can be a noisy guy when I need to be.”

Franzblau also tirelessly promotes ZOA, despite the fact that, “no matter how right we are, some at the leadership level in the organized Jewish community won’t admit it.”

As the district’s lay leader, he remains optimistic that he can build up ZOA in the Bay Area at the grassroots level. “I’m trying to expand and strengthen ZOA’s Northern California District.” They currently sponsor meetings that attract 50 to 100 people.

Franzblau says, “My personal feeling is, the mission of ZOA and its actions represent the clearest thinking on the survival of Israel and the Jewish people in the Diaspora.”
“Israel’s enemies simply see Israel in retreat and are emboldened to increase their attacks,” noted Klein. He argued that it must become a key element of Israel strategy to ensure that the terrorist’s agenda moves backwards, not forwards. Klein said, “We should stop talking about a Palestinian state as though this would make them civilized and peaceful. North Korea, Iran and Syria are all states. Are they lovely? Is their conduct peaceful?”

Dr. Michael Goldblatt, ZOA’s chairman, introduced Kenneth Abramowitz, a dedicated advocate for Israel. Abramowitz, who is chairman of American Friends of Likud and serves on the Board of Friends of the IDF, received the ZOA’s Distinguished Leadership Award for his tireless advocacy on behalf of Israel. In accepting the award, Mr. Abramowitz warned against the danger of Israel making more concessions to the Palestinian Authority.

Also attending the Dinner was Congressmen Anthony Wiener (D-NY), who took the podium to announce proudly that he comes from the “ZOA wing of the Democratic Party” before commending ZOA on its “magnificent work” in building support for Israel in Congress and helping to educate the public about the perils Israel faces in the Middle East.

Among the other numerous distinguished guests who attended the Dinner were Kenneth Bialkin and Malcolm Hoenlein, respectively past chairman and executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents, and Steven Emerson, the director of the Investigative Project and America’s most renowned expert on terrorism. In attendance also were previous Brandeis recipients Dr. Stanley Benzel, Dr. Ben Chouake, Dr. Michael Franzblau, Carl and Sylvia Freyer, Harvey Friedman, Martin Gross, Eli Hertz, Rose Mattus, and Michael Orbach, as well as Dr. Ruth Westheimer and several national board members of AIPAC.
There is one thing that unites them.

The war against the Jews.

Letters to the Editor

Must Israel Give More?
Monday, November 20, 2006

In “In New Middle East, Tests for an Old Friendship” (“Anatomy of an Alliance” series, front page, Nov. 13), you say Prof. John J. Mearsheimer of the University of Chicago urges more American pressure on Israel to solve the Palestinian question.

But Israel has already given up much of the disputed West Bank and all of Gaza, has released numerous Palestinian Arab prisoners and promised more to come, while getting in return a Hamas regime, terrorism, murder and promotion of hatred against Israel in their media, school books and sermons.

How much more should Israel give before the Palestinian Arabs show even a scintilla of interest in living in peace with Israel?

Morton A. Klein
National President
Zionist Organization of America
New York

Don’t Appease Hezbollah
Tuesday, August 8, 2006

Nicholas D. Kristof (“Let’s Start Talking,” column, Aug. 6) says “to hand over Shebaa Farms to Lebanon” and “an exchange of prisoners” would “remove the raison d’être for Hezbollah’s militia.” But that’s not true.

Hezbollah’s leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, has repeatedly called for Israel’s destruction, claiming that Israel is a “temporary country.” Thus, no matter the concessions Israel agreed to, it would not end Hezbollah’s true raison d’être, to end Israel’s existence as a Jewish state.

Therefore, the only solution to the problem of Hezbollah, which is on the State Department’s list of terrorist groups, is to disarm and dismantle it, not to appease it.

Morton A. Klein
National President
Zionist Organization of America
New York

A Palestinian State
Monday, April 10, 2006

Your April 6 editorial “The Semantics of Mideast Peace” stated that the Palestinians “crave and deserve” a “viable state.” If they really “crave” a state, why didn’t they accept the offer of Israel’s prime minister, Ehud Barak, to Yasir Arafat six years ago to establish one on 95 percent of the West Bank and all of Gaza? And why did they vote to be led by the terrorist group Hamas, whose call for Israel’s destruction and the killing of Jews by “armed resistance” make Palestinian statehood less likely and more dangerous to a stable Middle East?

Palestinian polls also show substantial support for suicide bombings and the return to Israel of the so-called refugees and their children and grandchildren, which would end Israel as a Jewish state. Does support of such policies and leaders make them deserving of a state? Hardly.

Morton A. Klein
National President
Zionist Organization of America
New York
Let’s not confuse David and Goliath.

Will common sense ever prevail?

Unfortunately, the truth isn’t always self-evident.

The Arab war against Israel has been purposely and quite successfully redefined as Israeli-Palestinian. Arab terrorists – Hamas, Fatah, Islamic Jihad, and Hizbollah – are merely tools in the hands of the Muslim world still dedicated to Israel’s destruction. And as such, they have been strategically transformed into the underdog in the ongoing war against the Jewish state.

Therefore the pro-Israel advocacy work of the Zionist Organization of America is ever more important.

Support ZOA, and help put another myth to rest.
This issue of ZOA Report is dedicated in honor of

Ed Ames

Distinguished singer and actor, ZOA leader and activist, and ardent fighter for Israel and against anti-Semitism.

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 ☐ $____________

☐ I have enclosed a check payable to Zionist Organization of America
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