



Imagine a World Without Hate™

**ADL AND ISRAEL**



**YEARS OF  
ADVOCACY**

A Publication of the Anti-Defamation League

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# PREFACE

As we mark ADL's 100<sup>th</sup> year, we look back with pride at our steadfast support of the Jewish state. Throughout the 65 years of Israel's existence, ADL has worked to foster positive relationships with Israel and to counteract a myriad of threats against Israel's security and well-being through a wide array of programs, advocacy efforts, publications and other materials.

From its founding in 1913, the Anti-Defamation League has been committed to fighting anti-Semitism and working for the security of the Jewish people. In its early decades, the League devoted itself to combating anti-Semitism in the United States and saw as its mandate protecting the security of American Jews. After the destruction of European Jewry, ADL concluded that if it was serious about its responsibility of protecting Jews, it must look to Jews in danger beyond the American scene.

The establishment of the State of Israel in May 1948 was the watershed event in the course of post-Holocaust modern Jewish history. As the fledgling state encountered ongoing physical, political and economic attacks, it quickly became clear to ADL's leadership that anti-Semitism had again reared its ugly head — this time in the form of the Arab and international struggle against Israel's very existence. ADL concluded that the ultimate expression of anti-Semitism in the post-Holocaust world would be the destruction of Israel.

The obligation to become involved with Israel, however, extended beyond the issue of anti-Semitism. The establishment of a Jewish State finally provided the Jewish people with security in a post-Holocaust world. Threats to Israel, therefore, constitute the worst threat to Jewish security since the Holocaust.

As a byproduct, ADL leaders saw in the creation of the State of Israel an opportunity to further weaken

anti-Semitism in the United States. Israel, it was felt, would help to free Jews everywhere from ugly stereotypes; it would present Jews to the world in the setting of their own democratic land, in the image of citizen soldiers, farmers and innovators.

In November 1948, ADL's National Executive Committee adopted a policy statement welcoming the establishment of the State of Israel. The statement declared that ADL has a special responsibility in dealing (a) with the effects of the establishment of the State of Israel on Jewish life in the United States, and (b) the relations between the American Jewish community and the American community at large with respect to Israel. The League saw as its mission to interpret the State in such a way as to reflect favorably on Jews everywhere, but "without getting involved in the internal or international politics of the State of Israel, which is the concern of its own citizens, the Israelis."

Sixty five years later, ADL's voice on Israel-related matters — whether advocating for peace, countering anti-Israel propaganda, exposing anti-Semitism in the guise of criticism of Israel or countering racism and prejudice in Israel — has great resonance and impact in the United States and around the world.



*David Ben-Gurion reading Israel's Declaration of Independence, Tel-Aviv, May 14, 1948*

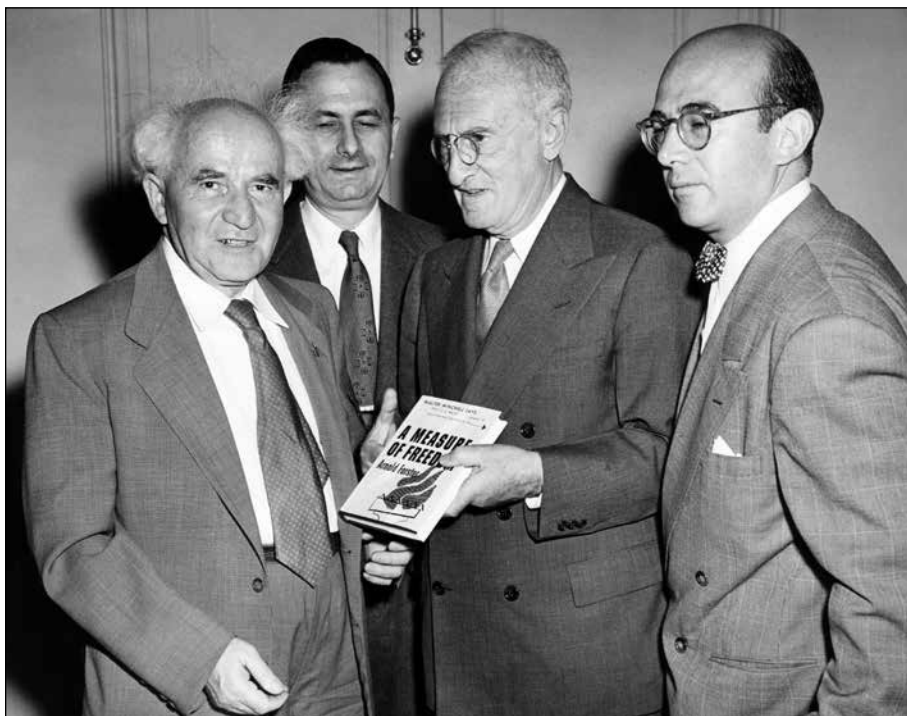
ADL's primary Israel activity has been to interpret Israel to U.S. policymakers, opinion molders and the American public. As Middle East tensions and crises continued through the years and Israel became the target of censure and condemnation, ADL worked to educate Americans about Israel, and to combat efforts to undermine the Jewish state's stability and legitimacy. ADL has sought to explain the complex political and security issues confronting Israel, the context for actions taken by Israel, to urge support of Israel and to explain why a strong Israel is important and valuable to the United States and the Western world. ADL strongly advocates in support of Israel-Palestinian negotiations to advance peace and highlights Israel's deep commitment to achieving peace and security.

In addition to interpreting Israel to the American public, ADL serves as an early warning system by regularly monitoring public opinion about Israel in the U.S. and Europe. This information on trends and currents regarding U.S.-Israel relations and related policies is provided to Israeli and U.S. leaders and shared with the general public.

Finally, ADL has become a key watchdog on efforts to marginalize, delegitimize or defame Israel — whether at the podiums of international organizations, through government or grassroots boycotts and sanctions, or through the propagation of inaccuracies and conspiracy theories. ADL further exposes when criticism of Israel crosses the line into explicit anti-Semitism.

ADL involvement with Israel and U.S.-Israel relations stems from our profound belief in American democracy and our commitment to Jewish security. Underlying all ADL programs vis-à-vis Israel is the belief that strong American diplomatic, financial and military support for Israel is not only the right thing to do in terms of American values and interests, it is necessary to counteract the threat of further wars against Israel. Moreover, the League has always believed that American support of Israel is the necessary ingredient

if there is to be any chance of reaching peace. The vast majority of the Arab world will only make peace if war is not a viable option, and a significant key to ending that option is U.S. support for Israel. ADL's efforts help the public, the media, members of Congress and government leaders understand that a strong U.S.-Israel relationship is, in our view, a contribution to peace and Israel's security.



ADL Eastern Regional Board Chair Louis Novins, ADL National Chair Justice Meier Steinbrink (1946-1953) and ADL National Director Benjamin Epstein (1947-1979) meet with Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion (ACME Newspictures)

Throughout its history, it has been ADL policy to support the democratically elected government of the State of Israel. This policy rests on the principle of respecting the integrity of the Israeli political process and the pragmatic goal of ensuring the effectiveness of the American Jewish community's advocacy on behalf of Israel. As Americans who do not live in Israel or participate in its democratic process, we are not the ones who must live with the effects of government policy, and ADL therefore believes it is inappropriate

to publicly question these difficult decisions. Second, Jewish community advocacy to the American government on behalf of Israel has been effective mainly because the community has been united in its support of pro-Israel U.S. policymaking. Public disagreements within the American Jewish community regarding Israel undermine this effectiveness and may inhibit our ability to promote positive U.S. policy in the future. To be sure, there are times when ADL does publicly raise concern about certain Israeli policies, particularly those affecting Diaspora Jewry or related to inter-group relations in Israel. ADL also regularly engages privately with Israeli officials to share views on developments and issues.

Today, ADL conducts an agency-wide approach to its Israel related work. ADL's International Affairs Division and Department of Middle Eastern Affairs and International Analysis monitor, evaluate and interpret Middle Eastern issues and developments. ADL's Israel office in Jerusalem, founded in 1977, serves as ADL's liaison to the Israeli government and civil society, coordinates visits by diverse Americans to Israel, monitors anti-Semitism in the Arab media and promotes anti-bias education and knowledge about anti-Semitism for Israelis. The Government and National Affairs Office in Washington, DC, educates members of Congress, Administration officials, diplomats and opinion molders on issues affecting Israel, U.S.-Israel relations and Israel's relationship with the international community. The Interfaith Affairs Department promotes an understanding of Israel in Christian and Muslim communities. ADL's Research Center monitors anti-Israel activity in the U.S. and reports on developments

and emerging trends. ADL's Center on Extremism combats extremist and terrorist threats against Israel in the U.S. and abroad. The League's regional offices conduct Israel programming, monitor anti-Israel activity in their region, and identify and recruit suitable candidates for ADL's missions to Israel.

The role that the Anti-Defamation League has played in supporting, explaining and safeguarding Israel over the last 65 years is described in the following pages. It is an inspiring record of the work and accomplishments of many dedicated men and women: the League's National Chairs, leadership and professional staff.

As ADL celebrates our 100th year, we salute Israel on its 65th anniversary, and hope and pray that Israel's future will be one of peace, security and prosperity for the Jewish state and all its people.

*ADL National Director Abraham H. Foxman meets with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Jerusalem, March 1997*







# ADL SPECIAL REPORT

Spring 1989

## Blacklisting Israel: A Current Perspective On The Arab Boycott

"The Supplier hereby warrants that [none of] the items . . . are made in Israel . . . either in whole or in part and such items are not reshipped from Israel or manufactured . . . on behalf of any persons or organizations resident in Israel. The supplier moreover warrants not to dispatch any of the items on any Israeli carrier."



# BEYOND THE WHITE HOUSE

## LAWN: Current Perspectives on the Arab-Israeli Peace Process



An Anti-Defamation League Publication

*Providing understanding and context for the key issues confronting Israel, ADL has developed publications which are widely distributed to interested readers across the country and around the world.*

1913 - 1993  
ADL  
Anti-Defamation League  
**INTERNATIONAL  
REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST

IRAN:  
A GROWING  
STRATEGIC CHALLENGE  
TO ISRAEL  
AND THE  
WESTERN WORLD

January 1993

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE, 623 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, NEW YORK, NY 10017

# ISRAEL

## A Guide for Activists

ADL  
Anti-Defamation League

A publication of the Anti-Defamation League

2013

# GETTING OUR MESSAGE OUT THROUGH OLD AND NEW MEDIA

ADL has been assertive in providing quick reaction, in-depth background information and analysis on the Middle East to media outlets around the world.

Beginning in 1968, ADL Associate Director Arnold Forster recorded “Dateline Israel” radio programs which were broadcast on as many as 400 stations across the U.S. Guests included David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir, Abba Eban, Teddy Kollek, Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and Ariel Sharon.

Today, in addition to disseminating statements, op-eds and analyses to major news outlets and through social media, ADL National Director Abraham H. Foxman gets his views on major developments in Israel and the Middle East across through regular blog postings in *The Huffington Post*, *The Jerusalem Post* and *The Times of Israel*. The postings comment on key issues in U.S.-Israel relations, Iran’s nuclear weapons program, the peace process and other developments.

In times of crisis, ADL has undertaken online campaigns to educate and promote action.

ADL also monitors national and international media coverage of Israel and the Middle East for accuracy. When reports in newspapers, magazines, television, radio or online sources contain grave inaccuracies or display bias, ADL undertakes to set the record straight, through letters-to-the editor, meetings with news organization executives, or by responding with articles and analyses of our own.

Beginning in the 1970s, the League has also periodically undertaken a “Big 50 Press Survey” which examines editorial opinion on a particular issue involving Israel and the Middle East among the largest circulation newspapers in the United States. In recent years, surveys have been done on editorial opinion regarding Israel’s 2008/2009 Gaza Operation and on the 2010 Flotilla incident.

## SURVEYING ATTITUDES ABOUT ISRAEL

ADL has taken the pulse of American attitudes toward the Middle East for decades. Because the United States has been not only Israel’s strongest ally and main provider of assistance, but also the main catalyst for peace in the region, public opinion is critical. To provide a systemic understand of public attitudes, ADL periodically conducts surveys of American public opinion on Israel and the Middle East. Over the decades, these polls have revealed wide support for Israel among Americans, with occasional disagreements over certain policies or developments. These polls help the League and officials in Washington and Jerusalem to better understand how Israel is perceived — both generally and on specific issues — by Americans.

Since 2002, ADL has also conducted polling in Europe to survey attitudes towards Israel and Middle East issues. These findings have been shared with U.S. government officials and European leaders and diplomats. In addition, ADL, in conjunction with the Begin Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar Ilan University in Israel, has conducted two polls of Israelis’ attitudes towards the United States and U.S.-Israel relations.

*In times of crisis, ADL has undertaken online campaigns to educate and promote action.*

*Because the United States has been not only Israel’s strongest ally and main provider of assistance, but also the main catalyst for peace in the region, public opinion is critical.*

# BRINGING ISRAELI PERSPECTIVES TO AMERICANS

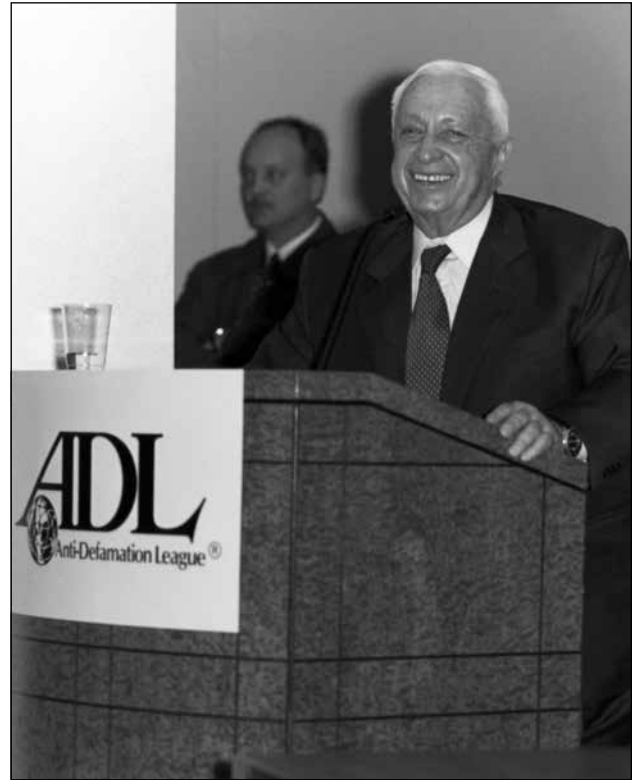
ADL regularly brings Israeli figures and analysts to the United States to speak to diverse American audiences. Through meetings in classrooms, boardrooms and community centers, these speakers deepen and enrich understanding between Americans and Israelis and enhance American understanding of Israeli society, security and politics.

Beginning in 1985, the Anti-Defamation League's Eugene Warner Middle East Lecture Series has brought scores of Israelis of different political and professional backgrounds to the United States to share their knowledge and observations on issues and challenges facing Israel. Notable Warner Series speakers have included Ariel Sharon, Ehud Barak, Dan Meridor, Chemi Shalev, Dore Gold and Benny Begin.

Most recently, ADL organized cross-country speaking tours featuring Daniel Taub, the Principal Deputy Legal Adviser of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to speak to law students, lawyers and legal experts about Israeli policies and international human rights law. Taub effectively conveyed to these legal audiences the very real security dilemmas Israel confronts on a daily basis and the rigorous procedures the IDF follows to ensure policies and actions comply with international law.

In the 1990s, ADL launched a unique program, CHILDREN OF THE DREAM®, which brought Ethiopian-Israeli teens who had been airlifted to Israel in the 1980's to the U.S. to share with American students their experiences as Africans, Jews and Israelis. These Israelis told compelling stories of rescue from oppression in Ethiopia and their journeys to freedom in Israel. American students responded with their own stories of discrimination and flight. Although originally designed as a program to educate Americans about Ethiopian Jews and Israel, the program also served as a leadership development program for the Ethiopian Israeli students themselves, many of whom have gone on to educational and professional success and maintained their connection to ADL.

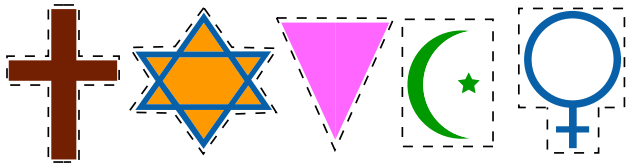
*ADL regularly brings Israeli figures and analysts to the United States to speak to diverse American audiences.*



*Opposition Leader Ariel Sharon addresses ADL leadership, November 2000*



# Pick any one & pin it to your shirt.



**There's only one nation in the Middle East that protects your rights.**

**Israel.**

Israel is by far the most democratic state in the entire Middle East. It supports civil rights for all its citizens regardless of religion, creed, race, gender & sexual orientation.

Dialogue begins when...

*ADL has produced and run ads on topics ranging from the menace of the Arab economic boycott of Israel, educating about Israel's democratic society, Palestinian terrorism and rejectionism, anti-Semitism in the Arab world, security challenges to Israel and Iran's nuclear weapons program.*

MR. PRESIDENT -

## THE PROBLEM ISN'T SETTLEMENTS, IT'S ARAB REJECTION

We all support peace in the Middle East. But pressuring Israel is not the right approach.

The obstacle to peace is not Israel. The settlements are not the impediment. The issue is simple: the Arab and Palestinian rejection of Israel's right to exist, including through violence and terrorism, for over 60 years. Israel's right to exist is undeniable and is based on its right to self-determination in its historic homeland.

The path to peace is clear. With recognition, Israel has said again and again that everything is on the table without preconditions.

Mr. President, it's time to stop pressuring our vital friend and ally. It's now time to direct your attention to the rejectionists who refuse to recognize Israel and negotiate an end to the conflict.

**With your leadership, yes, we can have peace.**

**But the path begins with the recognition of Israel.**

If you agree with our message, go to [www.adl.org/peace](http://www.adl.org/peace) to add your voice.

Glen S. Lewy  
National Chair

Abraham H. Foxman  
National Director



# The P.L.O. wants to be recognized.

## Here are 10 ways to recognize them.

1. Their victims are unarmed civilians, and they throw children from classroom windows.
2. They hijack and blow up civilian jetliners all over the world.
3. They promise to cut off oil to America by bombing super tankers.
4. They murder American diplomats in Beirut, Lebanon and Khartoum, Sudan.
5. They try to sabotage Mideast peace efforts, promising to "cut off the hands" of Carter, Sadat and Begin.
6. They claim to represent Palestinian rights, while assassinating Palestinian leaders who want peace.
7. They learn to kill in Russia, with Russian arms.
8. They support worldwide terror working with Italy's Red Brigade, Germany's Baader-Meinhof, Japan's Red Army and more.
9. They kill and maim Munich Olympic athletes, Christian Pilgrims and American tourists.
10. Their leader wears a gun at the UN as do his terrorists on their murderous raids.

## LET'S RECOGNIZE THE P.L.O. FOR EXACTLY WHAT IT IS.

Prepared as a community service by the ADL

## OIL.

## IT CAN HEAT YOUR HOUSE. RUN YOUR CAR. AND BLACKMAIL YOUR COUNTRY.

The idea of a handful of kings, sheiks and dictators trying to tell America what its foreign policy should be is a little tough to swallow.

And these Arabs would like you to believe that if we give in to their blackmail and change our Mid-East policy everything will be just like it used to be. Plenty of heating oil. Plenty of gasoline. At prices you can afford. Don't you believe it.

Because the Arabs have been cutting back oil production and raising oil prices to everyone. Everyone. France and India are pro-Arab countries. Yet their oil supplies have been cut. And while France paid \$1.60 a barrel for Libyan crude oil in 1970, today she pays \$8.90 a barrel. A price increase of over 500%.

So don't let the Arabs convince you that the reason for this oil crisis is America's Mid-East policy. Because the real reason is profits.

Saudi Arabia has cut output down from 8 million barrels of crude oil a day to 6 million barrels a day. But by raising the price of oil, King Faisal makes even more money.

And prolongs the life of his oil wells. And what with inflation, oil in the ground is better than money in the bank.

And since the Arabs are making more money than they can use right now, they think it pays for them to cut production. Not to increase it. So that's just what they've done. It's a seller's market.

With everything just the way they want it. But the Arabs don't want you to think about that. They want you to believe that they are strangling America "more in sorrow than anger."

They shed crocodile tears as they destroy our jobs and savings, force our factories to close, stop our transportation, and undermine our entire economy.

The fact is that they're trying to use their oil to dictate our foreign policy. And make a huge profit at the same time.



**Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith**  
Seymour Grubel, National Chairman

# MISSIONS: INTRODUCING DIVERSE AMERICANS TO THE ISRAELI REALITY

Early on, the League recognized that no amount of study of the Middle East situation could substitute for the experience of being in Israel.

Seeking to instill in U.S. lawmakers and opinion molders an awareness of the complexities of Israel and the Arab-Israeli conflict, in 1980 under the leadership of Abraham H. Foxman, ADL was the first American Jewish organization to initiate Congressional Missions to Israel. Among the key political figures who were introduced to Israel by ADL are John Kerry, George W. Bush and Al Gore.

Since that time, ADL has greatly expanded its Israel missions program to include student leaders, interfaith leaders, military officials, law enforcement officials, educators, presidents of historical black colleges, political cartoonists, entertainment professionals, and leaders in the African American and Latino communities.

*“When I return to campus, I hope to bring greater awareness of the need for mutual recognition of legitimacy in order to resolve the conflict.”*

The goal of these missions is not to indoctrinate or repeat pro-Israel propaganda, but rather to expose participants to Israelis of all political persuasions, ages, races and religions and to have them experience firsthand the rich texture and complex realities of Israel and Israeli



*ADL Campus Leaders Mission to Israel, August 2011*

life. Groups meet with Palestinian representatives as well. Due to the intensive, morning-to-night itinerary, mission participants often remark that an “ADL” mission to Israel really means “All Day Long.”

On their return to the U.S., many participants report that the mission was “life-changing,” and return to their homes with a better understanding of the many dimensions of Israel, an appreciation for the vibrancy of Israeli society, and how much Israel resembles our own democracy with its pluralism of views.

Senator John Kerry: “It was an extraordinary lesson to look off into Jordan and Syria, to see the Mediterranean, to see the entire Sinai, to get this tiny sense of how compacted and small it was — reinforced, may I add, by a drive along the green line looking down those eight miles or so at the thinnest spot, to see the ocean and to recognize how just absolutely extraordinary it is.”

Campus Leaders: “Being in Israel, I was surprised that there is so much more going on there than what the media shows. There are many other

cultures, other initiatives, other positive things happening. It’s not a country of bombs and terror — it’s a country of culture.”

“In Israel, I gained a better context for the conflict by seeing the relative size of everything. I noticed the non-homogenous nature of the Israeli opinion and how ready most are to strike an agreement. When I return to campus, I hope to bring greater awareness of the need for mutual recognition of legitimacy in order to resolve the conflict.”

Law Enforcement Officials: “This was the experience of a lifetime... I learned more about Israel in this week than I had learned in my lifetime. Their approach to dealing with terrorism — which is unfortunately something they learned through experience — was invaluable information that every police chief in the U.S. should have. Americans have been very fortunate in comparison, but the threat is there and our country should be prepared to address it.”

“I have a greater appreciation for the issues of the Middle East and

their direct connection to U.S. targets, but more importantly, I have an even greater respect for the police, military and citizens of Israel, who make the best of a very tense situation. The complete refusal to give in to terrorism at any level is an inspiration to all mankind!"

Catholic Educators: "Israel is much more complicated than I realized. Being there also gave me insight as to Israel's tenuous relationships with its neighbors and how truly surrounded they are."

Latino Leaders: "This extraordinary journey across Israel has given me a perspective of the country, its people, its achievements and its challenges that I would not have had otherwise. As one responsible for news content at my network...I have always studied Israeli history and news. But this new experience has provided a great deal of context to my theoretical knowledge

of the land and of the Middle East in general. For this I am profoundly grateful to ADL and its sponsors. It is now my responsibility to spread out the insights I have gained throughout this mission."

"It was a life-altering decision to come to Israel. This trip changed a lot of perspectives I had and I know the relationships I built here are very critical. I know now that I have the ability to communicate and inspire in others what Israel means. We had an experience that we can never substitute or replicate."

Theater Professionals: The late writer and playwright Wendy Wasserstein went on an ADL theater and arts mission to Israel in June 1991. She reflected on her trip in the magazine, *New York Woman*:

"Frankly, I signed up neither out of Zionism nor a desire to search for my theatrical roots, but rather out

of passivity bordering on ignorance. I never really knew much about Israel except that at Hebrew school we collected money for trees and ambulances there... We visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial. I manage to contain myself as we passed through the photos of the ghettos, the trains to nowhere, the atrocities, and finally end up at the Hall of Names, a massive attempt at collation of the names of the 6 million who died. In the front hall are two sample passports of those registered within. One of them is for Etylda Berkowitz, whose occupation is listed as "child." In her photo she looks to be around 7 years old. She has been positively identified by her brother of East 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Brooklyn. As I look at Etylda, my heart begins to pound, and I can no longer contain my tears. Because of her, I will never again see Israel as a far-off place of Hebrew-school-planted trees and military zealots. I have no answers, but it is impossible for me now to disclaim the connection."

ADL Latino Leaders Mission to Israel, November 2012



# SUPPORTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE

ADL has long supported peace negotiations between Israel and her Arab neighbors. Over the decades, ADL has worked to promote understanding of Israel's commitment to peace.

In the 1970s, ADL wholeheartedly supported Israeli-Egyptian rapprochement, and in various education campaigns, explained the contentious issues under negotiation leading to the 1979 peace treaty.



*Egyptian President Anwar Sadat is welcomed to Israel by Prime Minister Menachem Begin, November 1977*

ADL hailed revelations in 1993 that Israelis and Palestinians had been engaged in secret peace negotiations in Norway. ADL National Director Abraham H. Foxman and National Chair Melvin Salberg were invited guests at the White House signing ceremony of the resulting Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles on September 13, 1993, which launched the so-called Oslo Process. Shortly after, the League bestowed upon Norwegian Foreign Minister Johan Jorgen Holst its Distinguished Statesman Award for his instrumental role in brokering the peace agreement.

*ADL has worked to promote understanding of Israel's commitment to peace.*

Through the Oslo period, ADL prepared a series of educational publications on the agreements and the issues under negotiation, including *Beyond the White House*

*Lawn: Current Perspectives on the Arab-Israeli Peace Process and Towards Final Status: Pending Issues in Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations.* ADL celebrated the signing of the Israel-Jordan peace treaty and issued *The Path to Normalcy: The Evolution of Israeli-Jordanian Relations 1948-1995.*

During the Oslo era, ADL raised concern that disagreements over the peace process within the Jewish community both in Israel and the diaspora were being expressed in demonizing and exploitative public discourse. Before and after the shocking assassination of Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by an Israeli extremist in November 1995, ADL spoke out against incendiary and irresponsible rhetoric, and declared that responsible democracy requires responsible rhetoric.

While supportive of Israeli-Arab reconciliation, ADL has not shirked from criticizing Israel's negotiating partners even during periods of optimism and calm. For example, ADL has regularly called Palestinian leaders to task (even during the height of the Oslo period) for anti-Israel incitement and expressions of anti-Semitism and for the need for them to educate the Palestinian public, and especially its youth, about peace.

The League has consistently called on the international community to make clear to the Palestinians that they must stop activities which undermine the prospects for Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation and fully engage in meaningful negotiations with Israel.

*ADL National Chair Burton Joseph (1976-1978) and ADL National Chair David H. Strassler (1994-1997) present the Joseph Prize for Human Rights to King Hussein of Jordan, 1996*





# COMBATING THREATS TO ISRAEL

Through its 65 years of existence, Israel has battled forces which seek to delegitimize, undermine or threaten its very existence. From the beginning, ADL has sought to expose and counter these threats to Israel, from hostile Arab neighbors who attacked the nascent Jewish state in 1948 militarily, economically and politically, to the decades of terrorism launched by Palestinian terrorist organizations such as the PLO, Hamas and others, to decades of hostility in international organizations, including the United Nations, to grassroots efforts to boycott, divest from and sanction Israel.

*Protestors burn U.S. and Israeli flags during an anti-Israel rally, Karachi, Pakistan, Wednesday, May 16, 2012 (AP Photo/Shakil Adil)*



# COUNTERING ANTI-ISRAEL ACTIVISM AND PROPAGANDA

Beginning with Israel's founding, ADL has always drawn a distinction between those who act to destroy or damage Israel and those who hold and express views critical of particular Israeli policies or actions. ADL does not believe that criticism of Israel, by itself, constitutes anti-Semitism. Further, ADL believes that critics of Israel have every right to speak, write, publish and disseminate their views. However, ADL sees it as a responsibility to counter those who seek to defame and delegitimize Israel, as well as to expose criticism of Israel which crosses the line into anti-Semitism. An example is when Israel is criticized using age-old anti-Jewish canards or stereotypes, such as accusing Israel as being Christ-killers or Nazis in its treatment of Palestinians.

In the first decades of Israel's existence, ADL's focus was on countering anti-Israel activity in the United States. In May 1950 the National Commission resolved to "continue our efforts to expose those who out of guile and evil intentions utilize the subject of Israel to spread bigotry in our country and to make more difficult the road which Israel has to travel abroad."

In the late 1940s ADL exposed the activities of anti-Israel propagandists like Benjamin H. Freedman who fought against the founding of Israel at the United Nations. Working with Arab states and various Arab organizations, Freedman became the front for a one-man organization, the League for Peace with Justice in Palestine, which printed full-page advertisements in New York, Chicago and Paris for two years, soliciting funds to fight the creation of a Jewish state and charging Zionists with lying and claiming that American Jews "dealt a death blow to all the ideals of America's democracy."

In the 1950s, ADL exposed links between Arab propaganda operations in the United States and radical right wing movements, anti-Semitic groups and radical black organizations and combated Jewish anti-Zionism, such as that propagated by Rabbi Elmer Berger, whose American Council on Judaism raised the specter of dual loyalty by charging that American Jews could not be both supporters of Israel and loyal to the United States. ADL exposed anti-Israel Arab activities in its 1952 book, *The Troublemakers*.

In the early 1970s, in the wake of the Yom Kippur War, the fuel crisis, and the strengthening of Arab econom-

ic and political power in the U.S., ADL responded to increased anti-Israel sentiment and activities. In 1974, ADL published a book, *The New Anti-Semitism*, to highlight rhetoric and activities that denied the legitimacy of Israel and supported its eradication. ADL further countered a campaign by pro-Arab organizations in the U.S. to blame the oil crisis on U.S. support for Israel.

*ADL sees it as a responsibility to counter those who seek to defame and delegitimize Israel, as well as to expose criticism of Israel which crosses the line into anti-Semitism.*

In November 1975, ADL released the findings of a two-year study revealing that Arab governments were spending \$45 million annually in the U.S. for a "saturation, propaganda and lobbying offensive against Israel and Jews." The League further exposed Arab petrodollar influence on American campuses, with funds directed at underwriting academic chairs, departments and programs.

ADL also exposed anti-Israel activism in the United States with groundbreaking research reports, including the 1983 *Pro-Arab Propaganda in America: Vehicles and Voices* and the 1991 *The Anti-Israel Lobby Today: An Examination of the Themes and Tactics of an Evolving Propaganda Movement*.

*ADL's National Director Benjamin Epstein (1947-1979) presents "The New Anti-Semitism" to Prime Minister Menachem Begin as ADL National Chair Burton Joseph (1976-1978) and ADL Israel Office Director Zev Furst look on, 1977*



## THE ISRAEL LOBBY

*ADL exposed and refuted allegations by Jew-baiters who claimed that Israel, American Jews, and a powerful “Israel lobby” were pushing the United States to war with Iraq.*

With Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, ADL exposed and refuted allegations by Jew-baiters who claimed that Israel, American Jews, and a powerful “Israel lobby” were pushing the United States to war with Iraq. The most infamous was pundit Pat Buchanan who charged that only Israel “and its amen corner in the U.S. want war in the Middle East.” The same false charges arose on the eve of the Second Gulf War in 2003, when prominent voices, including Senator Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina, claimed that a group of neo-conservative Jews was driving America to war solely to benefit Israel. ADL forcefully shot down such assertions. In a June 2004 op-ed, ADL Deputy Director Kenneth Jacobson wrote of such claims:

*“This is classic anti-Semitism. It attributes to a few Jews power beyond reason, in this case seeming to assign more power to Richard Perle, Elliot Abrams, and Paul Wolfowitz than to President George W. Bush, Donald Rumsfeld, Dick Cheney and Colin Powell. It rests on the prejudice that longtime government officials who happen to be Jewish are more loyal to Israel than America. And it assumes that Jews, rather than functioning as individual Americans, automatically are engaged in conspiracy with other Jews.”*

The charges of a powerful lobby more loyal to Israel than to the United States, which (along with Jewish neo-cons) directs the U.S. to adopt and pursue policies supportive of Israel which are detrimental to American foreign policy interests, gained further prominence with the publication of a 2006 article and later a 2007 book entitled *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy* by two well-regarded American political scientists,

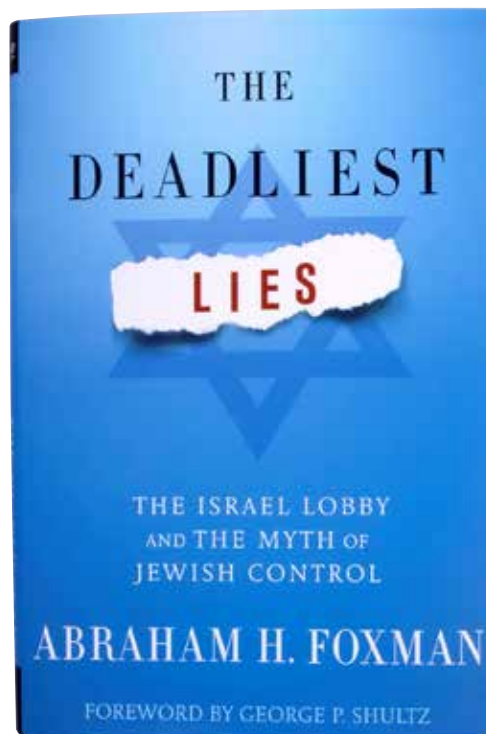
Stephen M. Walt and John J. Mearsheimer. ADL vigorously worked to expose the anti-Semitic underpinning of Walt and Mearsheimer’s assertions — the age-old charges of Jews being loyal to themselves rather than to their country, and of Jewish domination of policy and government. In response to Walt and Mearsheimer, as well as to former president Jimmy Carter who echoed criticism of an “Israel lobby” dominating U.S. policy, ADL National Director, Abraham H. Foxman, wrote *The Deadliest Lies: The Israel Lobby and The Myth of Jewish Control* to demolish the claims of an all-powerful Israel lobby and a global Jewish conspiracy, and reveal their historic roots in the most virulent forms of bigotry. As former Secretary of State George Shultz wrote in the introduction to the book:

*My problem with blaming Israel and the pro-Israel lobby for U.S. government policies and actions goes beyond the points ably made by Abe Foxman. We are a great nation, and our government officials invariably include brilliant, experienced, tough-minded people. Mostly, we make good decisions. But when we make wrong decisions — even one that is recommended by Israel and supported by American Jewish groups — it is our decision, and one for which we alone are responsible. We are not babes in the woods, easily convinced to support Israel’s or any other state’s agenda. We act in our own interests. And when we*

*mistakenly conclude from time to time — as we will — that an action or policy is in America’s interests, we must take responsibility for the mistake. We must take into account any effort to mislead us, as appeared to be the case with certain expatriates from Iraq. But we will fail far more frequently if we blame others for our mistakes than if we accept them as our own.*

*So, at every level, those who blame Israel and its Jewish supporters for U.S. policies they do not support are wrong. They are wrong because, to begin with, support for Israel is in our best interests. They are also wrong because Israel and its supporters have the right to try to influence U.S. policy. And they are wrong because the U.S. government is responsible for the policies it adopts, not any other state or any*

*of the myriad lobbies and groups that battle daily — sometimes with lies — to win America’s support.*



## NEW DYNAMICS IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

With the start of the Second Intifada in September 2000, ADL noted a fundamental shift in the anti-Israel movement in the United States. A confluence of factors — namely the social media explosion, a galvanized Jewish anti-Zionist movement, and renewed cooperation between anti-Israel forces in the Muslim and Arab community and the antiwar left — gave rise to a stronger and more organized anti-Israel movement in the 21st century. The new strategies employed to castigate Israel and isolate it from the international community include: the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaigns against Israel and companies that work with Israel; coordinated events under the banner of “Israeli Apartheid Week” held in dozens of cities each year; and vocal support for the violent resistance employed by groups like Hamas and Hezbollah against Israeli civilians.

To keep track of these trends and serve as a resource on anti-Israel events and movements, the League monitors the activity of hundreds of domestic anti-Israel groups and individuals, anti-Israel sentiment expressed in the Arab media both domestically and abroad and the explosion of anti-Israel commentaries on social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. ADL experts author trend-analysis reports, articles and breaking news stories for ADL’s blog, thereby keeping the public and journalists informed, and arming Israel advocates on the ground with the necessary information to confront and respond to expressions of animus toward the state of Israel. ADL further provides information on planned anti-Israel activity to college campus administrators, with tools to minimize the disruption of anti-Israel events on campus, and trains college students, Hillel professionals and Jewish leaders to effectively respond to anti-Israel activity on their campuses and in their communities.

When anti-Israel activists have targeted U.S. retailers demanding they stop carrying Israeli products, ADL has worked both behind the scenes and publicly to inform them about the biased approach of the BDS activists and

*ADL also exposed the rise of anti-Semitic slurs under the guise of anti-Israel activism.*



*Anti-Israel protest, New York, January 2009*

*The League monitors the activity of hundreds of domestic anti-Israel groups and individuals, anti-Israel sentiment expressed in the Arab media both domestically and abroad and the explosion of anti-Israel commentaries on social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.*

the failure of such campaigns in the United States. In 2009, for example, ADL contacted Trader Joe's, which was targeted for carrying Israeli products, and urged them to publicly reject these boycott efforts. Trader Joe's issued the following statement to ADL: "Our response is that we sell products, and do not use our products as political tools or to make any statements about any political causes. We have no intention of removing any products based on pressure from any group, no matter what they support or don't support. As always, we believe our customers are smart, and they are capable of making decisions about what they purchase."

ADL also exposed the rise of anti-Semitic slurs under the guise of anti-Israel activism. Anti-Israel rallies and events across the country are often marked by signs and rhetoric comparing Israeli policy to the Nazi Holocaust. During the 2008-9 Gaza war, for example, juxtaposed images of Gaza and concentration camps were frequently displayed and protesters referred to Israelis as Nazis and held signs equating the Star of David and the swastika. This anti-Semitic imagery and rhetoric remains a staple of hardcore anti-Israel activists.

ADL has also alerted officials in Washington when anti-Israel activism potentially crosses legal lines. For example, in 2011, when two dozen fundraisers were organized in cities across the U.S. in support of efforts to send a flotilla to Gaza to "break the siege," ADL wrote to Department of Justice and Department of Treasury officials, warning that such fundraising may constitute a violation of two federal laws: the statute prohibiting providing material assistance to Foreign Terrorist Organizations and the Neutrality Act, which prohibits U.S. citizens from breaking maritime blockades imposed by nations friendly to the U.S., in this case, Israel. ADL also contacted officials at five American universities where fundraising events had been scheduled and urged them to look into these events and the recipients of these donations.



*Anti-Israel protest, Chicago,  
November 2012*

# THE ARAB ECONOMIC BOYCOTT

From the beginning, ADL was a leader in monitoring and countering the coercive effect of the Arab boycott worldwide and was instrumental in developing U.S. anti-boycott legislation in the 1970s.

Seeking to prevent the continued growth of Jewish settlement in Palestine and in reaction to the establishment of a Jewish state, in 1946 the League of Arab States initiated an economic boycott against the goods and services of the Jews in Palestine. Following the establishment of Israel in 1948, the Arab League formalized the economic boycott weapon as a means of undermining Israel's viability as a sovereign state and casting it as a pariah in the international sphere. In the early 1950s, the Arab League expanded the scope of its economic boycott

into a secondary boycott prohibiting non-Arab third parties from doing business with Israel. Companies found violating the Arab regulations were placed on a blacklist. The Arab League also imposed a tertiary boycott prohibiting companies from doing business with blacklisted companies. Finally, the boycott targeted Jewish-owned businesses and discriminated against companies with Jewish employees.

The Arab boycott was not only an effort to strangle Israel economically, but it had an impact on American business people who were being discriminated against for doing business with Israel. The secondary and tertiary boycotts affected U.S. domestic and foreign commerce and involved economic intimidation of American businesses.

In the 1950s and 1960s, ADL publicly exposed American corporations and businesses succumbing to Arab economic intimidation. These included a major tobacco company, which had refrained from selling cigarettes to Israel in the 1950s, a financial services company, which had closed its Israel office in the 1950's, and a large consumer goods company which had refused to grant franchises in Israel until ADL intervened in the 1960s.

By 1974, ADL concluded that growing Western dependence on Arab oil, Arab markets and Arab investments was leading to an increased will-



## The Arab Boycott: A U.S. Problem

*Reliance on voluntary compliance with current U.S. policy is not enough.*

by Seymour Graubard

ingness on the part of American business to submit to Arab economic intimidation. In response, ADL, along with other American Jewish organizations, launched a program of counteraction and pushed for the adoption of anti-boycott laws by the United States. A variety of educational, legal and political methods honed over the years were employed. These ranged from fact-finding to lawsuits, press conferences, corporate shareholder campaigns and political advocacy.

Over several years, ADL led the charge, making public the names of major U.S. companies complying with the boycott and demanded that laws be enacted which would include penalties for failure to report boycott-related requests and for complying with the Arab demand for discrimination.

*ADL publicly exposed American corporations and businesses succumbing to Arab economic intimidation.*

The disclosures of widespread boycott compliance, the public expressions of a number of American firms desiring to be free of foreign economic intimidation and the growing concern of the public, including editorials in the country's major newspapers in support of legislation, all pressured Washington to act. Some two dozen bills dealing with the boycott were introduced during 1975 and 1976. Eight different Congressional committees held hearings on the subject with ADL testifying before five of them in support of strong anti-boycott legislation with enforcement powers.

In early 1977, ADL National Chair Burton Joseph decided to involve the Business Roundtable — a coalition of the heads of the 150 largest American businesses — in order to secure Congressional legislation. In the course of a meeting between ADL leadership and the Roundtable members, Reggie Jones, Chairman of the Board of General Electric Corporation, reportedly turned to his colleagues and said:

*My fellow Americans and my friends in the business community, the ADL is correct. What Mr. Joseph said is essentially correct. What we're talking about here is Americanism and not dividends and not profit and loss, but what we're talking about is the sense of the United States and what America is all about. We must go forward to prevent anything to come into the*

*American business community which will force the American business community, or make it able for the American business community to choose between one part of the community and another based on religious preference. This we cannot have.*

The League then invited the American Jewish Committee and American Jewish Congress to join in drafting anti-boycott legislation. After long negotiations under the leadership of Ambassador Max Kampelman, the parties came up with a Joint Statement of Principles. It declared that there could be no discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex or origin in support of a foreign boycott; that no one could furnish information with regard to race, religion or sex or respecting its business relationships with a boycotting country; that no one may refrain from doing business with or in a foreign country in compliance with regulations of a boycotting nation; and no U.S. person may furnish information to implement a foreign-imposed boycott.

*ADL led the charge, making public the names of major U.S. companies complying with the boycott and demanded that laws be enacted which would include penalties for failure to report boycott-related requests and for complying with the Arab demand for discrimination.*

Much of the language was ultimately incorporated into Congressional anti-boycott legislation passed that spring and signed into law by President Carter in June 1977. At the signing, President Carter commended the “cooperative effort between the business community, Jewish leaders, the Congress and the Executive branch” which shaped the bill “as a model for what can be accomplished in even more difficult areas when reasonable people agree to sit down together in good will and good faith.” With the passage of legislation there was now a legal framework to counteract the more

repugnant aspects of the Arab boycott on the American scene and sharply diminish its impact.

In the 1980s and early 1990s, the League exposed European and Asian governments (particularly Japan) and private sector participation in the boycott, urged American allies to adopt anti-boycott legislation and lobbied the G-7 and other economic forums to adopt unequivocal calls against the Arab boycott. ADL efforts within the G-7 succeeded when in June 1994 that group urged the termination of the boycott without linkage to any other issue.

In the aftermath of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations in the early 1990s, promotion of the economic boycott by the Arab League wound down and became essentially inconsequential to Israel’s economic well-being, yet even to this day the official boycott office remains in existence and the primary boycott barring Arab countries from directly doing business with Israel remains in place.



*ADL National Chair Burton Joseph (1976-1978) looks on as President Jimmy Carter signs U.S. anti-boycott legislation, Washington, DC, 1977*

# THREATS TO ISRAEL AND THE REGION

When Israel faces direct military and strategic threats, ADL has always provided information on the security challenges, operational goals and the efforts made by the Israel Defense Forces to safeguard civilians. In turn, ADL has sought to educate Americans about the ideology, methods and goals of those who are threatening Israel. ADL provided such context and information during the Six Day War (1967), the Yom Kippur War (1973), the two Lebanon wars (1982 and 2006), the first and second Intifada (1987 and 2000), the Gulf War (1991) and Israel's military operations in Gaza (2008 and 2012).

Since the 1990s, ADL has drawn attention to the danger posed by Iran's covert nuclear weapons program, and has lobbied to promote strong international action. As early as 1993, ADL issued a report entitled, "Iran: A Growing Strategic Threat to Israel and the Western World," which outlined Iran's nuclear weapons ambitions and its objective to achieve political and military domination of the region.

Since the mid-2000s, ADL has utilized public campaigns, diplomatic meetings, educational materials and widely placed op-eds to encourage the U.S. and international community to enact biting economic sanctions on Iran, and to make clear to the Iranian regime that unless they abandon their nuclear weapons program, "all options" remain on the table. In 2007, ADL launched a "No Nuclear Iran" public awareness and advocacy campaign, which through eye-catching posters, advertisements in national and community newspapers and online initiatives conveyed the message that a nuclear-armed Iran presents a direct threat to Israel, the Middle East, Europe and the United States. In 2008, ADL exposed Switzerland's \$30 billion energy deal with Iran through advertisements in major international newspapers and in leading Swiss dailies with a message to the Swiss government that, "When you finance a terrorist state, you finance terrorism."

*Since the 1990s, ADL has drawn attention to the danger posed by Iran's covert nuclear weapons program, and has lobbied to promote strong international action.*





# TERRORISM

Since the 1960s, ADL has drawn attention to the threat of terrorism worldwide. Thorough the 1970s and 80s, ADL materials and public campaigns focused on the ideology, operations and violence of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), documenting its terrorism against Israelis, Americans and other innocents. In October 1974, the League moved in federal court for a show cause order to prevent PLO leaders from gaining entry in the United States, or to restrict their travel within the U.S., on the grounds that their "crimes of murder, acts of barbarianism and savagery" put them into a category "precluded from entry in the U.S. by statute, regulation, custom and practice." After the ADL suit, the State Department decided to issue restrictive visas which limited the area PLO leaders could travel in the U.S. when coming to the United Nations. In 1989, ADL initiated *PLO Watch*, a periodic newsletter monitoring incendiary statements and continuing terror activities.

In 1986 ADL joined with the family of Leon Klinghoffer, the wheelchair bound American Jew who in 1985 was brutally murdered by PLO terrorists aboard the hijacked Achille Lauro cruise ship, to establish the Leon and Marilyn Klinghoffer Memorial Foundation of the Anti-Defamation League. Since that time, the Klinghoffer Foundation has worked to combat the threat of terrorism through educational, political and legal means. Its activities have included the creation of an award to recognize international figures who demonstrate a commitment to eradicating terrorism, sponsorship of conferences involving leading authorities on terrorism, and developing educational, legislative and legal responses to terrorism.

ADL has also exposed and condemned state support and sponsorship of terrorism, particularly with regard to Syria, Iran and Iraq, as well as identifying countries with lax anti-terrorism policies.

In the 1990s, following the PLO renunciation of terrorism, recognition of the State of Israel and the ongoing peace negotiations, Hamas, the Islamic extremist terrorist organization based in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, became the main Palestinian organization perpetrating suicide terrorist attacks. Through the 1990s and early part of 2000, Hamas carried out scores of suicide attacks on Israeli civilians on buses, in cafes, night clubs, shopping malls, and even at a Passover seder in a hotel. Since Hamas' takeover of Gaza in 2007, Hamas has itself perpetrated, or given the green light to, thousands of rocket attacks against Israeli civilian centers. In publications, advertisements, backgrounders and op-eds, ADL has highlighted Hamas' extremism, its ideological opposition to the existence of Israel and dedication to its eradication, and the anti-Semitism endemic in the Hamas Charter. In meetings with international leaders, ADL has urged that the international community refuse to recognize or engage with Hamas until such time as it renounces terrorism, recognizes Israel's right to exist, and recognizes previously signed Israeli-Palestinian agreements.

After the attacks of 9/11, ADL stepped up its commitment to fighting terrorism, with an intensified effort to monitor and expose terrorist activity in the Middle East and around the world, and has established itself as a go-to source for information on terrorist organizations and leaders for law enforcement, the media and others.

*Leon and Marilyn Klinghoffer*



*The Klinghoffer Foundation has worked to combat the threat of terrorism through educational, political and legal means.*

# HOSTILITY TOWARD ISRAEL IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Over the decades, ADL has countered efforts to exclude or isolate Israel from international bodies, as well as to condemn overt hostility towards the Jewish state in campaigns, speeches and resolutions. ADL has exposed and denounced the banning of Israelis from participating in international sports competitions, cultural events and professional meetings wherever they are held, and has called on organizers to secure contractual guarantees that Israelis will be allowed to attend these events. On the non-governmental level, ADL has drawn attention to the omission of Israel from materials, maps and web site listings of major airlines, hotels and corporations.

Most prominent is the United Nations history of bias and marginalization towards Israel — despite the body's pivotal role in the creation of the Jewish state. In a meeting in April 2007, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon acknowledged to ADL leaders that Israel has been treated poorly at the UN and that, while some progress had been made, this bias remains an issue. ADL reports and backgrounders have documented the decades-long campaign by Arab member-states to use the General Assembly as a forum for condemning and isolating Israel — historically with support from Soviet and non-aligned bloc countries — easily passing harsh anti-Israel resolutions and establishing an anti-Israel bureaucratic infrastructure within the U.N. Secretariat which still exists today. ADL has also documented and protested anti-Israel resolutions, investigations and biased special rapporteurs at the U.N. Human Rights Council (HRC) and its predecessor, the Commission on Human Rights.

Among the most invidious and harmful anti-Israel resolutions at the U.N. was the notorious 1975

General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism, declaring that “Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination...a threat to world peace and security.” ADL immediately denounced the resolution and set about monitoring and combating its harmful effects. An ADL survey found that 50 top-circulation newspapers in the United States unanimously condemned the resolution. Indeed, as the League pointed out, the Arab League Information Center was forced to place newspaper advertisements to explain and justify the anti-Zionism resolution. The resolution was finally repealed in December 1991, however there are constant efforts by Arab representatives at international conferences and forums to reintroduce this heinous equation, and it caused lasting damage to Israel's reputation in many developing countries where racism is the ultimate taboo.

The August 2001 U.N. World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, was another infamous chapter. Members of the U.N. and a host of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) participated in this international conference,

which was intended to examine effective mechanisms to combat racial discrimination and promote understanding and awareness of this global problem. Despite these laudable goals, the conference was hijacked by a number of NGOs and Arab states who used the platform to delegitimize Israel and promote anti-Semitism, including a return to hateful anti-Jewish canards such as Zionism is racism. ADL attended the Durban Conference and, with fellow Jewish communal colleagues, publicly exposed and condemned the flagrant expressions of anti-Semitism and harshly hostile anti-Israel environment of the conference. According to Durban participant, ADL International Affairs Director Michael A. Salberg, “The Durban Conference is the prime example of the pain and damage that can be inflicted when haters are given a forum. The U.N. was silent in the face of such ‘talk’ that sought to delegitimize Israel and demonize the Jewish people. They appeared apathetic to those who shouted, ‘kill the Jews.’” Since that time, ADL has opposed efforts to commemorate or “review” the Durban Conference and declaration.

*Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Chaim Herzog, who protested the Zionism is Racism resolution, addresses ADL group, New York, 1976 (Whitestone Photo)*



# EXPOSING ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE ARAB AND MUSLIM WORLD

As the leading organization monitoring and combating global anti-Semitism, ADL is committed to documenting and exposing manifestations of anti-Semitism in the Arab and Muslim world and to ensuring that the international community makes clear that such hate-filled expressions are not acceptable, nor can they be justified or excused as criticism of Israel.

*ADL is committed to documenting and exposing manifestations of anti-Semitism in the Arab and Muslim world and to ensuring that the international community makes clear that such hate-filled expressions are not acceptable.*

ADL strongly believes that these anti-Jewish manifestations push the hope for Israeli-Arab reconciliation further away. If the average person living in the Middle East believes that these hateful depictions of Jews are true representations, how supportive will they be of diplomatic relations with a Jewish state? Moreover, history has shown that such anti-Jewish incitement can create an environment conducive to, and accepting of, violence and terrorism.

ADL's particular focus has been editorial caricatures, which, while ostensibly commenting on current events, propagate age-old anti-Jewish stereotypes and myths. Examples are cartoons which feature Israelis as stooped, hook-nosed and money-hungry, and Jews

and/or Israelis shown as puppeteers manipulating the United States government and the United Nations. ADL collects these editorial cartoons daily from newspapers across the Arab and Muslim world, and features them online and in regular reports which are widely shared with government officials, the media, diplomats and business executives who frequently interact with colleagues in the Middle East.

The League documents anti-Semitism broadcast on television across the Arab and Muslim world. Among the most infamous examples are dramatic, multi-part, mini-series which were broadcast during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. The Egyptian-produced *Horseman Without a Horse*, which aired on Egyptian state television in 2002, dramatized the infamous forgery, *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* and rebroadcast in 2012. The Syrian-produced *Ash-Shatat*, which aired in 2003 on the Hezbollah owned Al-Manar satellite network, was saturated with horrifying stereotypes of Jews, references to the *Protocols*, and included a shocking

dramatization of a rabbi slitting a Christian child's throat to drain blood to make matzah for Passover.

ADL also exposes anti-Jewish conspiracy theories which spread across the region, including those blaming Jews and/or Israel for the 9/11 attacks, for infecting Arab youngsters with HIV, for selling chewing gum which forces Muslim girls to be promiscuous, and for the criminal organ harvesting from Palestinians, Algerians and Haitians.

ADL further shines a light on anti-Semitic statements by political and religious leadership across the region, be it a speech by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad denying the Holocaust and holding Jews responsible for the international economic crisis, or anti-Semitic assertions made by leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt at campaign rallies and by clerics in sermons in Iran, Gaza, Egypt and elsewhere, and ensures that they are denounced by the international community.

*Cartoon from Al-Watan (Saudi Arabia),  
September 10, 2012*



# ADL IN ISRAEL

During the mid-1970s, Arnold Forster, ADL's Associate National Director, recognized that ADL's work regarding Israel was taking on even greater meaning because of the influence of Arab petrodollars and the anti-Israel campaign at the United Nations. He argued that only an official ADL presence in Israel could appropriately serve ADL in its many-pronged approach to the Middle East conflict. ADL opened an office in Jerusalem in 1977.

ADL's Israel Office plays a key role in developing and implementing ADL's Israel policies and programming. The office interprets Israeli policy and public opinion for the League in the United States and serves as a resource for fostering improved understanding and stronger relations between the U.S. and Israel. By maintaining close contact with Israeli government and non-government leaders, the office provides American Jews with special insight into Israel's concerns and, in turn, conveys to Israelis special insight into American concerns.

As the coordinator of ADL's Israel Missions program (see above), the office develops the appropriate itinerary and program for each mission, enabling these diverse groups to gain a true understanding and a familiarity with Israel and Israelis in just a few days.

Over the last few decades, ADL Israel has broadened its activities to include educational initiatives, and takes public positions against extremism and bias in Israeli society.

Following the launching of intensive Israel-Arab negotiations in the early 1990s, National Director Abraham Foxman, together with ADL's lay leadership, decided that

the time was right for the agency to bring to Israel some of its well-known anti-bias programs, meeting longstanding Israeli requests to ADL to address in Israel some of the issues it addresses at home. Today, recognizing cleavages in Israeli society between Jews and Arabs, religious and secular, long-time Israelis and newer immigrants, influxes of migrant workers and refugee seekers from Africa and Asia, ADL conducts its acclaimed A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute program in a variety of

and youth groups. ADL also proudly serves on the executive committee of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues, which promotes the advancement of Arab citizens of Israel.

Just as it does in the United States and around the world, ADL speaks out on issues of extremism, hate and bias inside Israel. These statements and positions make ADL unique among other major American Jewish organizations.



*Israeli Jewish and Druze students participating in ADL's A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute program, Beit Ja'an, 2012*

educational venues, including schools with mixed Israeli Jewish and Arab populations, Bedouin schools, community centers and training courses for Israeli military and police.

In a newer initiative, the League now conducts seminars which educate Israelis about historical and current anti-Semitism, giving presentations to audiences ranging from military cadets to educators

In past years, ADL has spoken out against issues ranging from decrees by a rabbi which bars Israeli Jews from renting apartments to Israeli Arabs, to attacks against Muslim and Christian holy sites by Israeli Jewish extremists, to hate-filled rhetoric directed against African asylum seekers, to the loose use of Holocaust terminology in political rhetoric.

# ADL AND ISRAEL HIGHLIGHTS BY DECADE

## 1940-1950

- Rejoices in the establishment of the State of Israel
- Exposes the activities of anti-Zionist propagandists

## 1950-1960

- Publishes the 1952 exposé *The Troublemakers*, documenting the Arab propaganda apparatus in the United States with the explicit purpose of fomenting anti-Israel and anti-Jewish sentiments
- Exposes anti-Israel advocacy which cross the line into anti-Semitism



ADL National Chair Melvin Salberg (1990-1994), Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and ADL National Director Abraham H. Foxman, 1990

## 1960-1970



Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek addresses ADL group with ADL National Chair Kenneth Blalkin (1982-1986), 1986 (*Scoop* 80)

- Uses the Eichmann Trial in Jerusalem to educate about the Holocaust and counter those who deny or diminish it
- Makes Israel a top priority in the aftermath of the Six Day War, initiating *Dateline Israel*, a series of radio broadcasts portraying the human dimensions of Israel
- Begins taking U.S. legislators and public officials on missions to Israel to visit places of religious, political and historical importance and to meet with interfaith leaders, members of the Knesset, the Supreme Court and representatives from the Israeli government and civil society

## 1970-1980

- Intensifies its ongoing program to negate Arab anti-Israel propaganda in the aftermath of the 1973 Yom Kippur War
- Combats the Arab boycott of American companies doing business with Israel
- Plays key role in the passage of the 1977 Anti-Boycott Bill banning American participation in the Arab blacklist
- Exposes PLO and Arab terrorism worldwide
- Combats the United Nations' notorious resolution equating Zionism with racism

ADL National Chair Burton Levinson (1986-1990) and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, 1988 (*Peter A. Weissenstein*)





ADL National Chair Barbara Balsev (2003-2006) and Israeli President Shimon Peres, 2007

- Publishes *The New Anti-Semitism*, a book documenting worldwide insensitivity and indifference to propaganda which denied Israel's legitimacy
- Strongly supports and advocates for Israeli-Egyptian peace
- Establishes a presence in Israel with an office in Jerusalem

## 1980-1990

- Organizes fact-finding missions of influential Americans to Israel and southern Lebanon after the 1982 Israeli invasion
- Releases study of television network news coverage of Lebanon War documenting inaccuracies and biased reporting on the Lebanon War
- Prepares materials including op-eds, backgrounders and talking points on the Intifada
- Launches the Eugene Warner Middle East Lecture Series bringing Israeli military, political and academic experts to meet with audiences across the United States
- After the murder of wheelchair-bound Leon Klinghoffer by Palestinian terrorists aboard the Achille Lauro cruise ship, joins the Klinghoffer family to establish the Leon and Marilyn Klinghoffer Memorial Foundation to combat terrorism through legislation, education and advocacy



Natan Sharansky receives ADL Joseph Prize for Human Rights, with Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Benjamin Netanyahu and ADL National Chair Kenneth Bialkin (1982-1986)

## 1990-2000



ADL National Director Abraham H. Foxman and ADL National Chair Howard P. Berkowitz (1997-2000) meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, 1997

- Refutes charges that supporters of Israel were responsible for provoking war with Iraq
- Staunchly supports Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and the Oslo Accords
- Speaks out against incendiary rhetoric in Israel and the U.S. by critics of the Oslo Accords
- Fights for freedom for Soviet, Syrian and Ethiopian Jews to emigrate
- Launches CHILDREN OF THE DREAM® program bringing Ethiopian Israeli youths to meet their peers in the U.S.

- Establishes the Albert Finkelstein Memorial Campus Editors Mission, an annual voyage to Israel designed to educate aspiring journalists about the history of the Holocaust, the Jewish state and the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict
- Helps lead efforts in Congress supporting the imposition of political, diplomatic, and economic sanctions against states which sponsor and harbor terrorists such as Iran, Iraq, Libya and Syria



*ADL National Chair Robert Sugarman (2009-2012) and ADL Israel Board Member Zvi Rafiah*

## 2000-2010

- On the ground at the August 2001 United Nations World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, exposes the anti-Semitism permeating the NGO conference, urges the United States and other responsible nations to withdraw from the main conference, and calls on the UN to keep the focus on racism, and away from Israel
- Disseminates *Israel: A Guide for Activists* to provide tools and information for advocacy
- Combats the rising tide of anti-Semitism in the Middle East and around the globe, and tracks the threat of American Muslim extremists
- Combats the worldwide campaign to delegitimize and demonize Israel, and exposes radical campaigns against Israel
- Launches national advertising campaign "What if Hamas Was in Your Neighborhood?" highlighting the impact of Hamas rockets on Israeli civilians
- Exposes anti-Semitism at anti-Israel rallies across the United States, Europe and Latin America following Israel's 2008/09 Gaza Operation
- Advocates for strong international sanctions to stop Iran's nuclear weapons program, exposes European business dealings with Iran, launches "Stop Nuclear Iran" information campaign

## 2011-PRESENT



*ADL National Chair Barry Curtiss-Lusher, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Gay Curtiss-Lusher, 2008*

- Speaks out against violence and hatred against African refugees, Israeli Arabs, Palestinians and others in Israel
- Exposes and responds to anti-Semitism and anti-Israel activity on college and university campuses
- Counters Palestinian efforts to gain membership and status upgrades at international organizations



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