

The AFSI Advocate

Americans For a Safe Israel

אמריקאים למען ישראל בטוחה

March, 2003

MISSION TO ISRAEL

All of you undoubtedly have received copies of the photo-essay of the Oct-Nov. 2002 trip. Hopefully, seeing the extent of our travels, and the fascinating array of people we have met along the way, will encourage you to consider joining us on our next AFSI Mission to Israel, May 25-June 2, 2003. Just as our last trip was designed to coincide with the reading of the biblical portion of Chaye Sarah, (where Abraham purchases the grave in Hebron for Sarah) which we celebrated with thousands in Hebron at the Ma'arat HaMachpela, so this trip is geared around the celebration of Yom Yerushalayim.

The total cost of the trip is \$1676, which will cover air travel, taxes, hotels, all breakfasts and dinners, some lunches, guided tours, and bullet-proof buses where necessary. Early reservations are highly recommended. A deposit of \$200 is required with your reservation.

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AFSI is pleased to present you with this, the first edition of our bi-monthly *AFSI Advocate*. It is our hope that this new publication will be your access point to follow all of the activities of AFSI. *The Advocate* is an interactive tool which will report to you about AFSI's ongoing activities and will be a conduit for your comments to us.

It is our intention to keep you informed about our range of activities which include the following: our educational efforts in Congress regarding the situation in Israel, our organization of and participation in rallies, our presentation of lectures, our organization and sponsorship of semi-annual trips to Israel, and updates on our publication and dissemination efforts.

It is our hope that *The Advocate* will further inspire you to support AFSI in these difficult times for Israel and that it will provide you with information and resources for your own allied efforts.

On behalf of AFSI, we welcome you and your feedback to *The Advocate*.

Cooperating with Christians

Herbert Zweibon, AFSI's Chairman, has been spearheading a campaign with Christian Evangelical leaders asking that Christians pray that President Bush will honor G-d's gift of the Land of Israel to the Jewish people.

Oct. 11, 12, 2002 - Herb, accompanied by Helen Freedman and Charlie Bernhaut, attended the Christian Coalition Rally For Israel at the Washington Convention Center.

Richard Hellman, Chairman of CIPAC, who works closely with AFSI on Capitol Hill, had a booth at the "Road to Victory" Conference which was adjacent to AFSI's booth. It was there that Herb was interviewed by the Ted Koppel "Nightline" people, and it was this interview that was aired over national television on November 26, 2002. In preparation for the Rally for Israel, AFSI purchased 10,000 Israeli flags which were distributed to the attendees. In the Washington Post coverage of the event there was a prominent photo of people enthusiastically waving the flags in support of Israel. AFSI also had hundreds of posters printed up citing G-d's Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and their descendants, "Unto Thy Offspring Will I Give This Land." At our booth we distributed AFSI buttons along with hundreds of copies of OUTPOST, and sold hundreds of copies of BATTLEGROUND by Shmuel Katz. The Rally was a huge success with speakers such as House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, founder and former Christian Coalition president Pat Robertson, Member of Knesset Benny Elon, and CC's National President, Roberta Combs all carrying AFSI's message - NO "PALESTINIAN" STATE.

Dec. 19, 2002 - A full page LETTER TO PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH was placed by AFSI and ten Christian groups in the Washington Times stressing the biblical Covenant.

February 10, 2003 - Herb attended the National Religious Broadcasters Convention in Nashville, TN. For this event, AFSI prepared thousands of copies of a letter from the COMMITTEE FOR A ONE-STATE SOLUTION, signed by the co-chairs, Gary L. Bauer, E.E. "Ed" McAteer, and Herbert Zweibon. The letter asked President Bush not to reject God's Covenant with Israel by pursuing his "vision" of a "democratic Palestine" living side by side within Israel. AFSI also distributed thousands of bumper stickers which read, "PRAY, PRES. BUSH HONORS G-D'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL." The demand for thousands of these bumper stickers to be shipped to various places in the U.S. has us hoping that this will become a nation-wide call from America's grass roots.

The campaign will continue with a three pronged approach to reach the local churches, the media, and Congress through the use of TV and radio interviews and infomercials, and guest appearances with Christian and Israeli personalities. The message will be that a "Palestinian" state is a false solution. Not only would it be a violation of the biblical promise, it would also mean the end of Israel. It would serve as a green light to other terrorist groups around the world that terrorism pays.

March 4, 5, 2003 - Herb Zweibon, Helen Freedman, Ellen Singer, and a group of loyal AFSI supporters joined Richard Hellman, Chairman of CIPAC - Christians' Israel Public Action Campaign and his Israel loving Christians, in visiting the offices of forty different Senators and Representatives. The message that was delivered to all was that President Bush's "vision" of a "Palestinian" state living peaceably side by side with Israel was totally unrealistic, as well as being a violation of the biblical Covenant that G-d made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob promising that the Land of Israel would belong to the Jews forever. We pointed out that 46% of America is made up of Bible believers, and they, along with so many others, would be dismayed should President Bush give up the holy lands in Israel to a sworn enemy.

It was then AFSI's pleasure to join with CIPAC at the Reception held in the Senate Russell building from 4-6 on Tuesday afternoon, March 4. Senator James M. Inhofe of Oklahoma received a special award for his devotion to Israel. In honor of the occasion, a number of his Oklahoma supporters had traveled to Washington specifically to be with the Senator and to help with the overall program. In addition, Senators Trent Lott, Sam Brownback, and Gordon Smith all received plaques expressing admiration and appreciation for their unwavering support of issues that are in Israel's best interest. Each one addressed the group, underscoring his concerns and efforts on behalf of the Holy Land.

Rallies & Demonstrations

The New York AFSI office often sponsors and/or supports many demonstrations on behalf of Israel. We have protested outside the Israeli Consulate, decrying the policies of the Israeli government that have allowed the continuation of Arab terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians and soldiers. We have stood outside the United Nations, denouncing its anti-Israel policies. We have demonstrated outside the PLO mission in New York, demanding that the mission be closed and removed from our city. We have also stood there mourning for the thousands whose lives have been destroyed by PLO terror. We've held Chanukah vigils, lighting candles for the Israeli victims of terrorism. Even the Jewish Museum in New York City has been the site of our demonstrations when their pursuit of "art" leads them to glorify the Nazi regime, and to show anti-Israel films. Our most ambitious demonstrations entail organizing bus trips to Washington, D.C. where we meet with other AFSI chapters, Jewish, and Christian groups in order to address the issues affecting both Israel and America. Those wishing to contact us for information regarding the organization and implementation of demonstrations in your communities, are invited to call or write the AFSI office.

SPEAKERS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Helen Freedman gave a talk at HINENI, in New York City on Sunday, Jan. 12, where she spoke about the disastrous "Road Map" being "hammered out" by the "Quartet", made up of the European Union, the United Nations, Russia and the United States. Following Helen's talk, Dan Luria from Ateret Cohanim spoke to the audience about the purchase of property in Jerusalem. Helen's speaking schedule also includes a meeting with the Forest Hills Chapter of EMUNAH of America at the Queens Jewish Center on March 9. Her topic: The One State Solution for Israel. She will also be one of a host of speakers, Christians and Jews, at a RALLY FOR ISRAEL at Temple Beth Avodah in Newton, Mass. on Sunday, April 6, 2-4 P.M.

New York AFSI sponsored an evening at Ohav Sholom in New York City, where Prof. David Kirk, co-editor of "PIERRE VAN PAASSEN -Israel: Democracy's Neglected Ally, 1943 to the Present", was the featured speaker. The book focuses on the role Palestinian Jews played during World War II in enabling the British to keep Rommel from conquering Egypt and severing Britain's lifeline. Van Paassen described this in his 1943 book, *The Forgotten Ally*, and Prof. Kirk reprinted this in his newly edited version. Kirk's book is available from AFSI at specially reduced prices for members.

Charlie Bernhaut, a member of AFSI's Executive Committee, graciously gave a command repeat performance of his Best of Jewish Comedy presentation at Hineni in NYC on Sunday, Feb. 9. Charlie believes in the healing qualities of comedy.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Communicate with your Congressional representatives and local authorities.

Write Letters to the Editor of your local papers. Be persistent. Encourage family and friends to do the same.

Monitor what goes on in local universities:

Columbia University ran "A 'Palestinian' Film Festival" - "Dreams of a Nation" - from Jan. 24-27. The films were full of myth and distortion, with speakers such as Edward Said setting the anti-Israel tone of the event. AFSI alerted the press and contacted Columbia's Jewish students encouraging them to mount a counter - protest.

Be aware of activities in local associations:

The American Library Association Council passed a resolution condemning Israel for the "destruction of "Palestinian" libraries, calling upon the U.S. government to prevent further destruction and provide material aid in reconstructing and restoring the alleged "cultural" institutions. The Israeli Library Association claimed ignorance of any such damage. AFSI contacted its people in Philadelphia, where the ALA was holding a Conference at the Convention Center. AFSI, together with ZOA, protested at a noon rally on Friday, Jan. 24, handing out literature and information calling for the biased anti-Israel resolutions to be rescinded. Many members of the ALA, who were completely unaware of the anti-Israel thrust of some of their leaders, were outraged by the discoveries they made.

Start an AFSI chapter in your community and recruit new members. Contact AFSI to learn the procedural details.

Helping Jewish communities:

With more than a fifth of Israel's citizens now living in poverty, hunger is a daily reality for many families. Soup kitchens are springing up throughout the country. Yossi Kapach, a retired IDF Major, and former Mayor of Kedumim, is Founder and Chairman of the Amitai Heritage Foundation, named after his son who was stoned to death by Arab terrorists. The Foundation supports food kitchens in Jerusalem. Yossi can be reached at: kapachy@cs.com. Meir Panim runs soup kitchens in Jerusalem, Haifa, Kiryat Malachi, Kiryat Arba-Hebron, and Eilat. Director, Moshe Lefkowitz, explains that the clientele consists of new immigrants, the unemployed, the elderly, handicapped, and victims of terror. Many Jewish schoolchildren enjoy the meals provided by the organization. Rabbi Chaim Buchinger is the U.S. representative - 1-877-736-6283. www.mifalchaim.org. AFSI/In Israel members Barbara Oberman Katz and Judith Nusbaum have been working with the soup kitchens and have responded to an urgent request for help from Safed (Tsfat). Those wishing to contact them should contact AFSI.

If you have an email address, please let us know what it is. We'll add it to our address book so that you may receive our alerts and press releases when they are issued.

CAPITOL HILL VISITS

An important part of AFSI's work is visiting our representatives in Washington, D.C. to inform them about the truths in the Israeli/Arab war. David Wilder, spokesman for the Hebron community, contacted us about arranging meetings for him with Members of Congress over a two day period. David reported back to us about his talks with over fifteen congressmen and senators or their aides. His primary message was that a "Palestinian" state would bring about the end of Israel.

Jeff Daube, a member of AFSI's Executive Committee, has been working for months on compiling information about anti-American Arab incitement. Working together with Outpost's editor, Rael Jean Isaac, they have completed a report entitled "Dubious Allies: The Arab Media's War of Words Against America." It focuses on anti-American incitement in the government controlled press of dubious allies, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the P.A. Jeff and Helen Freedman, and AFSI leaders brought the first batch of booklets to Washington on Feb. 13, 2003. They were distributed to over one hundred Senators and Congressmen. AFSI continued to distribute these pamphlets on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, March 4, when we joined Richard Hellman and CIPAC (Christians' Israel Public Action Campaign) at an Israel-U.S. Solidarity Rally.

IN MEMORIAM

AFSI extends its deepest sympathy to the families of the seven Columbia astronauts who died on Feb. 1, as their space shuttle disintegrated before landing. Rich Husband, William McCool, Michael Anderson, David Brown, Kalpana Chawla, Laurel Clark, and Israeli Ilan Ramon were all brilliant, brave, talented people who will be sorely missed by all. May their families know no more sorrows.

AFSI expresses its feelings of solidarity with the families and friends of all the Israeli victims of Arab terrorism. We mourn the thousands of tragic deaths and injuries and pray that the Sharon- led government will put an end to the wanton murder of innocent Israeli men, women, and children.

We mourn the passing of Arthur Horowitz, beloved husband of Bunny Horowitz, our Florida AFSI Chair, and of Sidney Weissman, beloved husband of our Oregon Chair, Inez Weissman. We extend our most sincere condolences to them and their families and pray that they know no more sorrows.

We mourn the death of Ron Kravitz, AFSI's Philadelphia Chairman. He will be remembered always as a loyal friend to Israel and to AFSI.

We mourn the death of Morris Berkower, Chapter Chairman from the New York area. His untimely passing leaves us with warm memories of his devotion to Israel and to AFSI.

CHAPTER REPORTS

We, at the national AFSI office, are aware that it is the efforts of our chapters throughout the country, and in Israel, that help AFSI to realize its goals. Listed below are reports compiled from our loyal and dedicated chapter chairs.

Florida Chapter - Bunny Horowitz, Chair

Last year AFSI's Florida Chapter hosted Senator James Inhofe(R-OK) and Louis Rene Beres (Professor of Political Science & International Law at Purdue University). In May they spoke to an overflow crowd about the dangers of a "Palestinian" state. As Prof. Beres has written, "The terrible Trojan Horse named Oslo has made a 'Palestinian' State almost inevitable. Yet, a 'Palestinian' State carved out of the still living body of Israel will assuredly give rise to chemical, biological or nuclear war."

The speakers' presentations continued the efforts of the Florida Chapter's long record of commitment to Israel. Over the past ten years, the Florida Chapter, under the leadership of Bunny Horowitz, has sponsored a series of fascinating educational speakers and events, including Col. Yoash Tsiddon-Chatto. Yoash (Chief of Israeli Air Force prior to the Six-Day War); Maj. General J.D. Lynch, Jr. (Chief of Staff of Pacific Fleet Marine Force and Assistant Chief of Staff of NATO North European Command); Israeli Member of Knesset Dr. Uzi Landau; Moshe Arens (Former Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. and Former Israeli Defense Minister); former Congressman Bill McCollum; Irving Moskowitz (a member of AFSI's Board of Governors); Dr. Walid Phares (Associate Professor of Political Science and Comparative Politics at Florida Atlantic University); and a video presentation of Steven Emerson's landmark video "Jihad in America."

The Florida Chapter has also sponsored the publication of various advertisements in local Florida newspapers that expose the duplicity of Yasir Arafat and the "Palestinian" Terrorism Authority.

Oregon Chapter- Inez Weissman, Chair

AFSI's Oregon Chapter, under the leadership of Inez Weissman, remains steadfast in its ongoing pro-Israel activism. The Chapter produces a radio program called "AFSI on ISRAEL," which airs four times a week and consists of news and views from the Middle East, including presentations from members of the Knesset and local leaders, as well as action alerts and readings of the Hebrew Scriptures. The AFSI activists in Oregon also publish a newsletter, "The Israel Alert," which the Chapter distributes to local churches, synagogues, the Jewish Community Center, libraries, restaurants, etc.

The Oregon Chapter also works in close consultation with such groups as the Christian Coalition, Bridges for Peace, and the International Christian Embassy to organize events in support of Israel. Indeed, on October 10 of last year, during a pro-Israel Christian rally in Washington, D.C., Bridges for Peace Chairperson Beatrice Watson worked with AFSI to coordinate a concurrent rally in Oregon. An important activity conducted by the Chapter was the gathering of a full container of needed medical supplies, donated by the Northwest Medical Team, to be shipped to Magen David Adom in Israel, as well as to clinics in Gush Etzion and throughout Yesha.

This coming spring, the Christian Coalition, in conjunction with AFSI, plans to hold a Western Rally conference in Portland.

San Francisco Chapter-Helene Klein, Chair

Last November, AFSI's San Francisco Chapter, under the direction of Helene Klein, welcomed Shaul Goldstein, the mayor of Gush Etzion, who spoke about the various problems facing the beleaguered community as a result of unceasing Arab terrorism. In August, David Halvri, who has held various leadership positions in Kfar Tapuach over the last 13 years, spoke about the burgeoning growth of his hometown and its future development plans, including the administration of the city's nightly security patrols with a special K-9 unit that works with trained attack dogs.

Albany Chapter-Jack Lauber, Chair

On September 9, at the state capital, the Albany Chapter, headed by Jack Lauber, cosponsored a rally with Bridges for Peace and Capital District Friends of Israel entitled "United We Stand Against Terror and For Israel." The rally featured prominent pro-Israel speakers, including a representative from the Israeli Consulate, NY Lieutenant Governor Mary Donohue, Congressmen Michael McNulty and John Sweeney, Albany Mayor Gerald D. Jennings, and Temple Israel Rabbi Paul Silton, among others.

Boston Chapter- Richard Salter, Chair

AFSI's Boston Chapter recently joined the Christian Coalition in its "Road to Victory Celebration" rally in Washington, D.C. on October 11, 2002. Chapter Chairman Richard Salter met with a number of Christian leaders at the event, who all expressed their staunch support of Israel.

The Boston Chapter is currently in the process of organizing a rally and informational meeting at Temple Beth Avodah in Newton, Mass., April 6, 2-4 PM.

Seattle Chapter- Isabella Ariel, Chair

This relatively new Chapter has already sponsored many interesting speaking programs. Speakers included: Doug Glant, a specialist on Israeli affairs; David Shayne, who sketched the background of Israel and Zionism; Prof. Edward Alexander, who spoke on the lies fabricated by Israel's enemies. Isabella Ariel believes it is essential to continuously distribute educational booklets and materials to the AFSI members, which she does on a regular basis, encouraging them to share the information with others.

Los Angeles Chapter - Col. Irving Kett, Chair

Dr. Irving Kett, retired U.S. Army Colonel, chairs this newest chapter. The organization meeting was attended by Herb Zweibon. The group hosted MK Michael Kleiner at its first program meeting.

Chicago Chapter - Ira Kahn, Chair

The Chicago group, headed by Ira Kahn, is well known in Washington, D.C. where its members appear regularly, armed with heavy loose-leaf folders, filled with vital information about the Arab-Israeli conflict. Ira's "briefing" books are anything but brief. When the Chicago group appears, Senators and Congressmen know that serious business is being conducted. They participated in the March 4, 2003 Israel-United States Solidarity Rally in Washington.

Jerusalem, Israel Chapter - Bill Mehlman, Chair

AFSI/ In Israel has been moving at a brisk pace since its October inaugural meeting in Jerusalem, presided over by AFSI Chairman Herbert Zweibon. Herb emphasized the special obligation of Americans residing in Israel to speak out as U.S. citizens on issues critical to the American-Israeli relationship. That provided the catalyst for a quarter page open letter to Pres. Bush in the Jerusalem Post headlined, "Stop the Pressure." The letter generated dozens of inquiries and increasing attendance at each of the three subsequent meetings, all of which were addressed by the leaders of parties vying for seats in the 16th Knesset. AFSI/In Israel hosted a delegation from Portland, Oregon in December which distributed Chanuka gifts to sick and injured children. "Battleground" by Shmuel Katz, newly reprinted under AFSI's auspices, was distributed to Israeli based media correspondents. Bill Mehlman, AFSI/In Israel Chairman, has been working with Inez Weissman on the medical supply program begun in Portland. In April, Bill plans to bring Member of Knesset Effie Eitam, chairman of the National Religious Party to Temple Emanuel in Miami for a symposium planned by AFSI's Florida Chair, Bunny Horowitz.

MEET SIMA PANTUKHOVA

Originally from Leningrad, Russia, our newest staff member, Sima, has proven to be a great asset to the AFSI office. After graduating from high school in America, she moved to Israel in 1997 and attended Bar-Ilan University, where she received a degree in Political Science and Communications. Sima is fluent in four languages: Russian, Hebrew, English and Computerese. All these abilities are enhanced by Sima's delightfully warm, pleasant, and positive personality. All of us at AFSI are benefiting from her presence among us.

THANKS TO OUR PREMIER VOLUNTEER

Many of you know our most dedicated volunteer, Charlotte Wahle. She has been our mainstay, helping out with a countless variety of office detail work. In addition, it is the voice of Charlotte that people hear when the call comes out for a demonstration or meeting. Charlotte's telephone abilities are also invaluable when it comes to the last minute arrangements for our AFSI Chizuk missions, on which she is a regular participant. She is also well known for her letter writing abilities, with her letters to the editor appearing regularly in the Jewish Press and the Aufbau. We are very grateful to her and pray that she may continue to be so generous with her time and energy on behalf of AFSI.

JOIN AMERICANS FOR A SAFE ISRAEL/AFSI
IN

★ISRAEL★

MAY 25-JUNE 2, 2003

Tour and bring *Chizuk* to the Jews of Judea, Samaria, Gaza, the Golan, Otniel, and Hebron...Rejoice in the celebration of Yom Yerushalayim in Jerusalem...Learn about the latest on the Israeli political horizon in meetings with government officials...and more!

All-inclusive cost of \$1676 includes air travel, taxes, hotels, all breakfasts, all dinners, some lunches, guided tours, and bullet-proof buses where necessary.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL AFSI AT 212-828-2424 OR
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