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SPECIAL INTEREST REPORT

A digest of news items and articles in the area of The Council's interests

307 Fifth Avenue New York NY 10016 Marcia Friedman • Editor Vol. XIV No.3

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION PUBLISHES 'STRATEGY' FOR MIDDLE EAST

The image of Israel as a State determined to expand its borders and to expand its power beyond those borders -- an image popularized by Prime Minister Begin as "Greater Israel" -- loomed larger last month with the publication of a World Zionist Organization document titled "A Strategy for Israel in the 1980's."

Originally included in the WZO's Dept. of Information journal *Kivunim* [Directions], the document has been translated into English and printed by the Association of Arab-American University Graduates. It was penned by Oded Yinon, an Israeli journalist formerly attached to the Foreign Ministry of Israel.

The strategy Yinon describes is a vision of future "immense opportunities" for Israel to transform the "situation" in the entire Middle East. These opportunities--deemed necessities by Yinon if Israel is to survive at all--include: 1) regaining the Sinai peninsula, though this is presently obstructed by the Camp David and the peace agreements; 2) breaking down Egypt territorially into distinct geographical regions with a Christian Coptic State in Upper Egypt alongside a number of weak states with very localized power and without a centralized government; thus bringing about the downfall of the present form of countries like Libya, Sudan and even more distant ones; 3) the dissolution of Lebanon into five provinces; 4) the dissolution of Syria and Iraq into ethnically or religiously unique areas,with the dissolution of the military power of those states; 5) the dissolution of Jordan, terminating the rule of King Hussein, and the transfer of power to the Palestinians; 6) dispersal of the Israeli Jews throughout the mountainous areas -- Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and the Galilee -- and rebalancing the country demographically, strategically and economically.

Yinon states: *"Rapid changes in the world will also bring about a change in the condition of world Jewry, to which Israel will become not only a last resort but the only existential option. We cannot assume that U.S. Jews and the communities of Europe and Latin America will continue to exist in the present form in the future."*

The explosive document is at present receiving neither serious affirmation nor strong denial from Zionist Organization officials in the United States. A WZO-American Section representative told *Special Interest Report* that the Yinon article has "assumed importance far beyond its just desserts." It is not, he said,a "reflection of any government official point of view"...

MOST UNFORTUNATE AD OF THE MONTH...appeared in a newspaper supplement prepared by the Immigration and Absorption Department of the World Zionist Organization. In the ad, the troubled Occupied Territory of the West Bank--referred to by the biblical name of Judea and Samaria -- is described in headlines as "Israel's Fastest Growing Suburbs" with "70 percent of the land not being used at the present time."

Motivations to settle in this area, the ad copy reads, differ with each family, but the two that are listed first are a "strong sense of idealism coupled with the desire to further the land of their fathers," and the "excitement and gratification of responding to the challenge of building something new and thereby contributing to the total Zionist concept."

OPEN DEBATE ON ISRAEL NEEDED, URGES WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS LEADER

In a story that jumped the limits of the Anglo-Jewish press to appear in most general news media, it was reported that Canadian businessman Edgar M. Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, has urged open debate on Israel's policies.

Critical himself of some of those present policies, Bronfman warned Congress members that American Jews risk losing their credibility when they march in predictable lockstep with whatever Israeli government is in power, on each and every issue.

In a wire story in the Chicago *Sun Times*, Bronfman is quoted as saying, "It does us no good to fantasize about a peace that will come to the Middle East without sacrifice or concessions...It does us no good to think that three million Jews can live among 120 million Arabs without some political accommodation and somehow prevail."

AMERICAN JEWISH POLITICAL SYSTEM DESCRIBED

Although Assistant Professor Jonathan S. Woocher (Brandeis University) describes himself as an "analyst" in his article in the World Zionist Organization publication *Forum*, the substance of his writing indicates he may be one of the more important manipulators working to change American Jewry for the benefit of the political Zionist movement.

Starting with the admission that it "must be acknowledged that American Jews rarely view their own Jewishness as a political identity," Woocher goes on to "insist" that an "American Jewish political system" exists [propagandese for "should be made to exist"] since through its set of "interrelated institutions" it acts politically as a major "force shaping and expressing the collective agenda of American Jews" [propagandese for "should be made to act politically to shape and express the collective agenda of American Jews"].

Moving on to detail, Woocher says that the American Jewish political system "almost certainly could not take place without the concurrent evolution of a unifying political ideology among American Jews." He describes the ideology as "Jewish survivalism," and advises that it is "the key which, when properly struck, launches the American Jewish polity into action."