

IRmep

Institute for Research: Middle Eastern Policy

US Charitable Contributions, Illegal Settlements and Suicide Terrorism
Russell Senate Office Building
 Presented by:
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IRmep 2005: Fusion of Insight

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- Public Disclosure – US \$60 Billion has flowed into illegal settlement building
- Talia Sasson Report – Rampant illegal settlements expansion tied to WZO and US Tax exempt corporations
- Unfettered independent US Tax Exempt 501 Contributions to illegal settlements
- Robert Pape Study – Occupation as the leading cause of Suicide Terrorism

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IRmep \$60 Billion Spent on Illegal Settlements

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- Vice Premier Shimon Peres estimates Israel has spent about \$50 billion since 1977, when the hard-line Likud government took over from his Labor party. Other former finance ministers and government officials don't discount a price tag — commonly floated but never documented — of \$60 billion.
- Israel's effort since the 1967 Mideast war to fill the West Bank and Gaza Strip with Jews has grown from the scattered actions of zealous squatters into a network of **1,500** **outposts** and **1,400** villages that house nearly 240,000 people.

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IRmep Sason Report

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- Former Israeli State Prosecution Criminal Department Talia Sasson (Talya Sason) chartered to study illegal settlement activity.
- Issued a report in March of 2005 revealing a massive criminal conspiracy involving numerous government agencies and an organization controlled by US nonprofits.
- “Summary of the Opinion Concerning Unauthorized Outposts”



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IRmep Summary Report: Criminal Activities

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- 150 communities in the West Bank with incomplete or nonexistent permits (formal list is incomplete).
- The housing ministry supplied 400 mobile homes for outposts on private Palestinian land
- The defence ministry approved the positioning of trailers to begin new outposts
- The education ministry paid for nurseries and their teachers
- The energy ministry connected outposts to the electricity grid
- Roads to outposts built by taxpayer money

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IRmep Excerpts from the Summary

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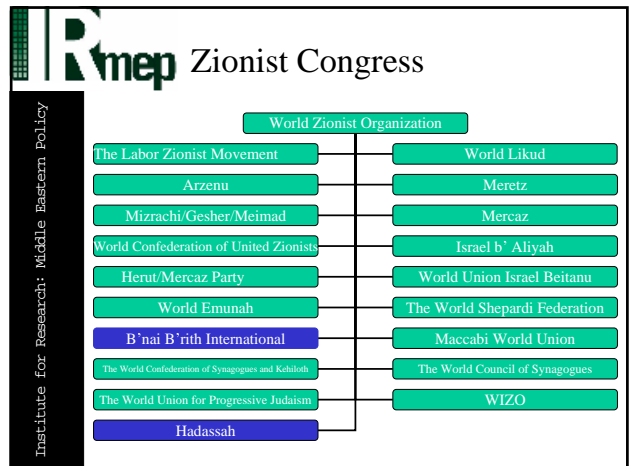
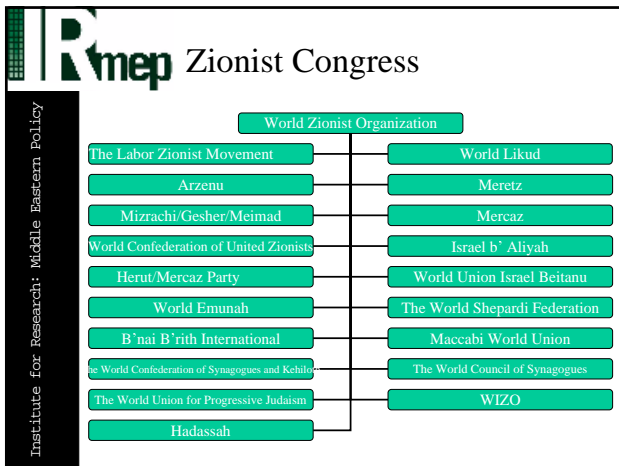
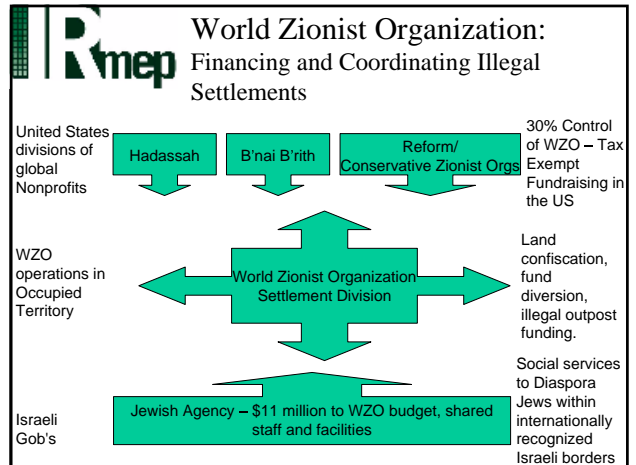
- “The Commissioner of Government and Deserted Property in the Civil Administration represents the State as the owner of State lands, and allots lands to the World Zionist Organization. Since 1996, the World Zionist Organization is allotted with lands for planning purposes only . Apparently, the Organization allots the lands to others, for purposes of development and establishing of settlements, contrary to its permit.”
- “They are the ones who financed construction without a resolution by the political echelon, in contrary to government resolutions, with no legal planning status, sometimes not on State owned land, sometimes on private Palestinian property or on survey land.”

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Rmep World Zionist Organization

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- The WZO Settlement Division was created shortly after the 1967 Six Day War, as part of a reconstitution of the WZO and the Jewish Agency into separate bodies.
- The split was described as an effort to involve Diaspora donors more closely in the Jewish Agency's activities.
- In the reconstitution, the former Land Settlement Department of the WZO, which had overseen creation of new Israeli villages since the 1920s, was separated into two bodies.
- The Jewish Agency would oversee development inside Israel's pre-1967 borders, and the WZO division would pursue settlement activities in the territories captured in 1967.
- Under the most recent government-WZO agreement, adopted in 2000, the division has a semi-independent budget financed with Israeli government funds, currently \$40 million a year.
- The Jewish Agency and the WZO remain closely linked, sharing staff and some joint facilities. The agency is the main source of the WZO's \$11 million general budget.



Rmep The Direct US Connection

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- HADASSAH The Women Zionist Organization Of America – Multiple chapters in all major US Cities, founded in 1912.
- B'nai B'rith International - \$11 million a year Humanitarian Services operation in the US

Rmep The Indirect US Connections

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US Tax-Exempt Organization	Tax Exempt Mandate	Activity
Christian Friends of Israel (Colorado Springs, CO)	"Educating Christians about the Land of Israel and Biblical significance of current events in the Middle East"	Disbursed \$100,061 to an affiliate operating in the West Bank for construction of bus stops, playground equipment in illegal settlements during the year 2003.
American Friends of the College of Judea and Samaria (Brooklyn, NY)	"To provide support for the expansion and furtherance of the needs of educational institutions in Israel."	Disbursed \$228,200 to an Israeli college established in the illegal West Bank settlement of Ariel.
One Israel Fund, Inc. (Cedarhurst, NY)	"The mission of One Israel Fund is to provide essential humanitarian assistance to the over 225,000 men, women and children living in the 150 plus communities throughout Judea, Samaria and Gaza (YESHA)."	Disbursed \$1.9 million in year 2003 to finance illegal settlements, arms, "Friends of the IDF" organization, and "security equipment".




Rmep Charitable Contributions and Money Laundering

- Money laundering can be defined generally as the process of concealing the existence, illegal source, or application of income derived from criminal activity, and the subsequent disguising of the source of that income to make it appear legitimate.
- Deception is the heart of money laundering: deceiving the authorities by making assets appear to have been obtained through legal means with legally-earned income or to be owned by third parties who have no relationship to the true owner.
- With the intent to promote an unlawful activity, or evade U.S. taxes, or conceal the ownership of the money or assets, or to cause a report required to be made under federal or state law.

Rmep Pape Study

- Robert Pape study revealed in book titled *Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism*
- Analysis of a database of all suicide terror attacks from 1980 to 2003
- Central cause of suicide terrorism: "It is a strategic effort to compel target governments to withdraw forces from land that the so-called terrorists perceive as their national homeland."



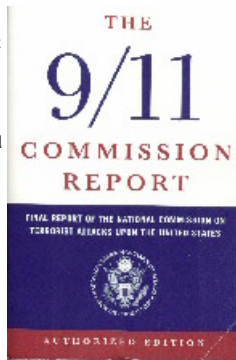
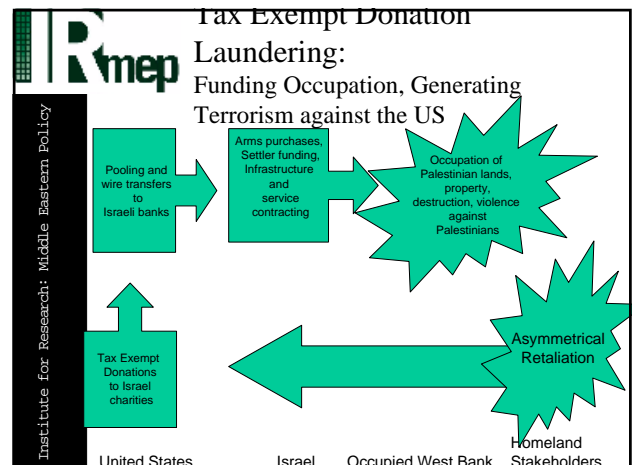
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Rmep Suicide Terrorism

- A strategy of weak actors
- Many movements are aligned against perceived "Christian-Zionist" expansion in Middle East and use it to motivate "retaliation".
- Bin Ladin
 - "One reason behind the symbolic participation of the Western forces...is to support the Jewish and Zionist plans for expansion of what is called "Greater Israel".
- Abu Mussab al-Zarqawi
 - "The Americans, as you know well, entered Iraq on a contractual basis and to create the State of Greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates..."

Rmep Israel as a factor in 9/11

- Page 147 9/11 Commission Report
- "Yusef's instant notoriety as the mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing inspired KSM to become involved in planning attacks against the United States. By his own account, KSM's animus toward the United States stemmed not from his experiences there as a student, but rather from his violent disagreement with U.S. foreign policy favoring Israel."

IRmep Sason Report Update: Recommendations Stalled

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- Eight months after the Cabinet approved her investigative report showing collusion by government agencies in the construction illegal West Bank settlement outposts, the government has taken no significant steps to correct the situation.
- Sasson had recommended Ron Shechner, a top aide to Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz, be fired. On November 9, 2005 he resigned.
- No apparent action on the recommendation to dismantle 24 illegal outposts, tighten budgets and rules to prevent unapproved use of government funds for unauthorized construction, and transferring officials known to be involved in the illegal activity.
- No apparent action on the recommendation to sever the government's ties to the Settlement Division of the World Zionist Organization, the key entity in outpost construction.

IRmep Law Enforcement

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<p>TITLE 18--CRIMES AND CRIMINAL PROCEDUREPART I--CRIMES CHAPTER 45--FOREIGN RELATIONS</p> <p>Sec. 960. Expedition against friendly nation</p>	<p>Whoever, within the United States, knowingly begins or sets on foot or provides or prepares a means for or furnishes the money for, or takes part in, any military or naval expedition or enterprise to be carried on from thence against the territory or dominion of any foreign prince or state, or of any colony, district, or people with whom the United States is at peace, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both.</p>
<p>TITLE 18--CRIMES AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE PART I--CRIMES CHAPTER 45--FOREIGN RELATIONS</p> <p>Sec. 956. Conspiracy to kill, kidnap, maim, or injure persons or damage property in a foreign country</p>	<p>(a)(1) Whoever, within the jurisdiction of the United States, conspires with one or more other persons, regardless of where such other person or persons are located, to commit at any place outside the United States an act that would constitute the offense of murder, kidnapping, or maiming if committed in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States shall, if any of the conspirators commits an act within the jurisdiction of the United States to effect any object of the conspiracy, be punished as provided in subsection (a)(2). (2) The punishment for an offense under subsection (a)(1) of this section is--(A) imprisonment for any term of years or for life if the offense is conspiracy to murder or kidnap; and (B) imprisonment for not more than 35 years if the offense is conspiracy to maim. (b) Whoever, within the jurisdiction of the United States, conspires with one or more persons, regardless of where such other person or persons are located, to damage or destroy specific property situated within a foreign country and belonging to a foreign government or to any political subdivision thereof with which the United States is at peace, or any railroad, canal, bridge, airport, airfield, or other public utility, public conveyance, or public structure, or any religious, educational, or cultural property so situated, shall, if any of the conspirators commits an act within the jurisdiction of the United States to affect any object of the conspiracy, be imprisoned not more than 25 years.</p>

IRmep Recommendations for US Law Enforcement

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- **Indictments and Prosecution:** Immediate investigations of US non-profits controlling the World Zionist Organization.
- US non-profits violating Title 18 prohibitions of violence and occupation against nations with which the US is at peace. AG's should seek criminal indictments against the most flagrant violators to send a strong message that US counter terrorism efforts also aim to stamp out indirect causes of terrorism financed with charitable donations.
- **Internal Revenue Service:** IRS disclosure forms 990 and schedule A reporting should be revised with specific questions about settlement funding, such as: Did your organization finance or in any way participate in illegal settlement activities in Israeli occupied territories? Examinations of US charities sending large amounts of funds or equipment to Israel should become an IRS audit priority.
- **US Treasury Department Office of Foreign Assets Control:** Should begin to break out and make public charitable financial flows from the US to Israel, as well as require donor entity activity reports documenting the purposes for which donations will be used and location.

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IRmep Roadblocks

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- WZO governing bodies will claim:
 - "We don't oversee the WZO Settlement Division Budget;"
 - "No funds were directly transferred from US philanthropic groups to illegal settlements;"
 - "We don't directly control the WZO Settlement Division, we have limited voting rights;"
 - "We can't respond to that question;"
 - "The US division of International Organization _____ is not involved."
- Same responses given to prosecutor Talia Sasson

IRmep Bottom Line

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