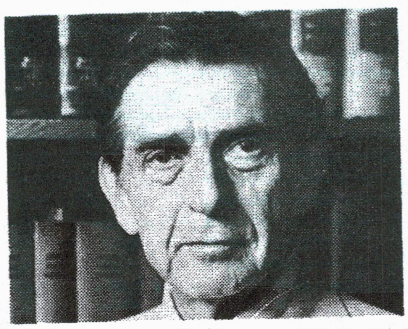
The "Special Relationship" With Israel Must Be Reconsidered

"We are therefore *ourselves* fully responsible for the use to which Israel puts the power we place in its hands..."*

"The so-called 'Special Relationship' now assumed to connect the U.S. and Israel ought to be ***radically rethought.***" *

*From the newly-published JCOME pamphlet by Prof. Charles Black titled ***Let Us Rethink Our "Special Relationship" With Israel.*** Black is one of the leading experts on Constitutional Law and Human Rights. The July 1986 issue of the *Yale Law Review* was devoted to his life's work.



Professor Charles L. Black, Jr.
Sterling Professor of Law Emeritus,
Yale University

REICH, ADELL & CROST
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION

501 SHATTO PLACE, SUITE 100
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020
(213) 386-3860

TELECOPIER (213) 386-5583

JULIUS REICH
HIRSCH ADELL
PAUL CROST
GLENN ROTHNER
ALEXANDER B. CVITAN
ANTHONY R. SEGALL
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April 18, 1989

Jewish Committee on the
Middle East
Post Office Box 18367
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: Enclosed Contribution

To Whom It May Concern:

One instinctively reacts to the ugliness of anti-Semitism with a renewed appreciation for each Jew's responsibility for the survival of the Jewish people as a whole. I have the same instinctive reaction to misdeeds perpetrated by my fellow Jews in the name of our people. The current policies of the State of Israel in regard to the Palestinian people are a case in point. As a Jew, I feel compelled to oppose those policies.

Unbeknownst to me, 15 years ago my grandfather purchased a State of Israel bond in my name. Last Hanukkah, several years after my grandfather's death, my parents presented it to me. I decided immediately to redeem the bond, rather than accept moral responsibility for the Israeli government's policies by allowing my resources to be employed in their implementation. But redeeming the bond (and keeping the proceeds) would not have been enough, for my motives would have been left uncommunicated, and it is not my purpose to achieve a small, economic windfall. Instead, I am donating the proceeds to you, and my preference is that you use these funds for two purposes: (1) opposition to the Israeli government's policies and (2) the defense of the Palestinian victims of those policies.

My grandfather probably would have disapproved. He was of a generation that supported Israel uncritically. My sensibilities, however, will not abide the oppression of the Palestinian people and the rejection of their legitimate claims for statehood and self-determination.

Enclosed is a check for $900.00, the proceeds of the bond. Good luck with your work. Let me know if I can help in other ways.

Sincerely,

Glenn Rothner

GR:mc
enclo.
cc: Israel Ministry of Finance
State of Israel Corresp. Unit

JCOME is an association of thousands of concerned Americans, including American Jewish Professors at over 125 universities, who urge the United States to suspend arms and money to Israel until Israel agrees to the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people. The new pamphlet by Professor Black will be sent to all who join with us by sending the coupon below with a contribution of at least $25.

Call the JCOME 24-hour info line for additional information: (202) 362-JCOM (362-5266)

Whether you are Jewish or not...Please join with us!

Your support and contributions are vitally needed if JCOME is to be effective in bringing these issues to the attention of the public, the press, and the Congress.

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Jewish Committee On The Middle East
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