

**Original FOIA Number:** 2003-0261-F

**2nd FOIA Number:**

**3rd FOIA Number:**

**4th FOIA Number:**

**5th FOIA Number:**

# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an  
administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential  
Library Staff.**

---

|                           |                                                   |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Record Group:</b>      | Bush Presidential Records                         |
| <b>Office:</b>            | Records Management, White House Office of (WHORM) |
| <b>Series:</b>            | Subject File - General                            |
| <b>Scanned/Unscanned:</b> | Scanned                                           |

---

|                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>WHORM Category Code:</b> | FG006-06                  |
| <b>WHORM Category Name:</b> | National Security Council |

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| <b>Document Number:</b> | 016819 |
| <b>Alpha File Name:</b> |        |

---

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

016819  
RECORD ID: 8900682  
RECEIVED: 10 FEB 89 12

FG006-06

TO: HALE, JOE

FROM: SCOWCROFT

DOC DATE: 01 MAR 89  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: ISRAEL

MP

PERSONS: HALE, JOE

SUBJECT: LTR RE ISRAELI GOVT & PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

ACTION: SCOWCROFT SGD LTR DUE DATE: 14 FEB 89 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCIF:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T   D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO  
CHARLES  
HAASS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY R. A DATE 3/1 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY: NSRCB

DOC 3 OF 3

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8900682  
RECEIVED: 10 FEB 89 12

REF  
2/13/89  
1815

TO: SCOWCROFT

FROM: HALE, JOE

DOC DATE: 30 JAN 89  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: ISRAEL

MP

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR RE ISRAELI GOVT & PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

ACTION: APPROPRIATE ACTION

DUE DATE: 14 FEB 89

STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCIF:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T   D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION  
HAASS

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO  
RODMAN  
WORKING

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

0682

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1989

Dear Mr. Hale:

Thank you for your letter of February 8, 1989, in which you express your concerns about the current situation in the occupied territories. I read your trip report with interest. It is of great importance that we find a workable arrangement to bring about a lasting peace among Israel, the Palestinians and Israel's Arab neighbors. At a period in history when several global conflicts are being resolved through diplomacy and negotiation, we are hopeful that a similar conclusion can be found for this forty year old struggle.

I appreciate your confidence in this Administration's leadership and hearing from concerned Americans, like yourself, on matters of importance to our national security.



Brent Scowcroft

Joe Hale  
General Secretary  
World Methodist Council  
P.O. Box 518  
Lake Junaluska, NC 28745



**National Security Council  
The White House**

LOG # 0682  
SYSTEM PRS NSC INT  
DOCLOG A A/O     

**89 FEB 28 All: 26**

|                 | SEQUENCE TO | HAS SEEN       | DISPOSITION   |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| Bob Perito      | <u>7</u>    | <u>Red</u>     | <u>A</u>      |
| Philip Hughes   | <u>8</u>    | <u>✓</u>       | <u>    </u>   |
| Bob Gates       | <u>9</u>    | <u>✓</u>       | <u>    </u>   |
| Brent Scowcroft | <u>10</u>   | <u>    </u>    | <u>    </u>   |
| Philip Hughes   | <u>    </u> | <u>    </u>    | <u>    </u>   |
| Situation Room  | <u>    </u> | <u>    </u>    | <u>    </u>   |
| West Wing Desk  | <u>11</u>   | <u>    </u>    | <u>D</u>      |
| NSC Secretariat | <u>12</u>   | <u>R.B. 11</u> | <u>D</u>      |
| <u>    </u>     | <u>    </u> | <u>    </u>    | <u>Redone</u> |

|                   |                        |                     |                   |                              |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>A = Action</b> | <b>I = Information</b> | <b>D = Dispatch</b> | <b>R = Retain</b> | <b>N = No further Action</b> |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|

cc: VP      Sununu      Other     

**COMMENTS**      Should be seen by:      (Date/Time)

Redone per General Scowcroft

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

February 13, 1989

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

**SIGNED**

THROUGH: RICHARD HAASS *M*

FROM: *AS* SANDRA CHARLES

SUBJECT: Response to a Letter from the General Secretary,  
World Methodist Council

Attached for your signature is a proposed response to a letter from Joe Hale, the General Secretary of the World Methodist Council, in which he addresses the current situation in the occupied territories and urges the Administration to find a solution to end ~~to~~ the violence (Tab II).

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the proposed response at Tab I.

Attachments      Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Tab I      Response to Joe Hale  
Tab II      Hale Letter

*See changes  
2/27/89*

National Security Council  
The White House

CM

113 P7: 10

LOG #

0682

SYSTEM

765

IDF INT

DOCLOG

CM

A/O

SEQUENCE TO

HAS SEEN

DISPOSITION

Dep Exec Sec

1

Ruf

A

Exec Sec

2

ABX

Bob Gates

3

J

Brent Scowcroft

4

✓

Exec Sec

Situation Room

West Wing Desk

5

NSC Secretariat

Charles

6

FFA

Redone II

A = Action

I = Information

D = Dispatch

R = Retain

N = No further Action

cc:

VP

Sununu

Other

COMMENTS

Should be seen by:

(Date/Time)

See Change





0682

# WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

JOE HALE, GENERAL SECRETARY

*1. sent*

P.O. Box 518 • Telephone (704) 456-9432  
LAKE JUNALUSKA, NORTH CAROLINA, 28745

January 30, 1989

General Brent Scowcroft  
National Security Advisor to the  
President of the United States  
Washington, DC 20013

FEB 8 1989

Dear General Scowcroft:

I appreciated your words last weekend regarding your important work on behalf of us all. With regard to our helping fashion some working arrangement between the Israeli Government and the Palestinian Liberation Organization, it is my hope we will treat both sides evenhandedly.

As you said Sunday, January 22, Mr. Arafat and the PLO have something to prove to the world. At the same time, the present Israeli Government has much to answer for to the world. The Minister of Industry, Mr. Ariel Sharon, is provoking conflict when he talks about wanting to kill Arafat.

Three months ago I visited Israel and was greatly alarmed by what I saw. My informal report is enclosed.

I first visited Israel in 1955, have had repeated return visits and have kept in touch with persons there over the years. Present Israeli policy with regard to the Palestinian people in the occupied West Bank is a form of state-sponsored "terrorism". I do not see how we can allow these acts to go unchallenged as the leader of the free world.

I am for the State of Israel and its security being assured. I am not for our being identified with the deportations, the killings, the confiscating of lands and building of settlements. Just to look at the figures and read the numbers of people who have been killed by Israeli Security Forces since mid-December, 1987, is alarming when you think of the small area and the relatively few people involved. The Israelis have suffered also. Perhaps their greatest tragedy is what is being done to reluctant young soldiers who are assigned to the West Bank to carry out and bear the psychological brunt of an unworkable and brutal national policy.

We look to you for leadership in advising President Bush on this sensitive and disturbing situation. If it continues, Israel may well be turned into another Lebanon.

With best wishes to you in the important leadership that is yours, I am

Most sincerely yours,

*[Signature]*  
Joe Hale

**Chairperson, Executive Committee:** Bishop Lawi Imathiu, Kenya; **Vice-Chairperson:** Dr. Donald English, United Kingdom; **Treasurer:** Mr. John R. Harper, USA; **Presidium:** Mr. Baltron A. Archer, Bahamas; Mr. Charles Boayue, (Youth) Liberia; Dr. Phyllis Guthardt, New Zealand; Bishop Isaias Gutierrez, Chile; Bishop Ben R. Oliphint, UM, USA; Mrs. Sinta Sitorus, Indonesia; Bishop William M. Smith, AMEZ, USA; Dr. Melitta Tenner, German Democratic Republic; Mrs. Edith W. Ming, WFMW President. **General Secretary:** Dr. Joe Hale; **Geneva Secretary:** Mr. Ralph C. Young; **Assistant Treasurer** (Hdqrs. Office) Mrs. Edna Alsdurf. **Honorary President:** Bishop William R. Cannon; **Past Chairpersons:** Dr. Kenneth G. Greet, Bishop Prince A. Taylor, Jr.; **Secretary Emeritus:** Dr. Lee F. Tuttle.



TO: GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT  
NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

FROM: JOE HALE, GENERAL SECRETARY  
WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

When the Conference of Secretaries of Christian World Communions met in Jerusalem in late October, 1988 (October 18-21), I had opportunity to meet, and talk with, Palestinian Arabs in the city and the occupied West Bank of Israel. I have been to Israel and the West Bank on fifteen different occasions but this was the first visit since the unrest that began in December of 1987.

I heard the plea of a people crying out for respect and trying to find some glimmer of hope. They were eager to talk, and ready to talk freely. What they said might be summed up: "The Israelis want to stay. They want all the land. They don't want us." The Palestinian Arabs feel the Israelis are acting without good will toward them. The Israelis believe they have done no wrong and assign blame to everyone else for wronging the Palestinians. The presiding Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem, said, "We need friends; we have many enemies. We are not asking people to give up friendship to the Israelis. They have passed through much. But that does not mean you cannot be a friend to people going through their own kind of holocaust. If you have had such a history, you should become more merciful, but this is not happening."

As an American citizen, I came away wondering how our country can support what I saw without mounting a serious challenge through our State Department and in the highest levels of our government. What I saw was in violation of our National Constitution and the cherished American principles our candidates for the Presidency have stressed throughout the 1988 campaign. I refer to things

happening in East Jerusalem and in a radius of not more than twenty miles from Jerusalem. The Israeli government has effectively shut down television and news coverage, but the same things NBC, CBS and ABC were filming for nightly news a few months ago are still occurring. Remembering the way the holocaust was allowed to happen, I am concerned about an even greater tragedy that "out of sight, out of mind" may bring.

This fortieth anniversary of the State of Israel is also the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Every member state of the United Nations is pledged to honor this Declaration which sets forth the most basic rights human beings possess. I had a copy of the Declaration, which is comprised of thirty Articles, with me. In the week I spent in Jerusalem, I saw evidence of twenty-five of the thirty Articles being openly and blatantly violated.

Among the most serious were: political and racial oppression, the security of persons violated, lack of protection under the law, arbitrary arrest and detention, persons judged guilty and punishment meted out before or without trial, the lack of free expression and assembly, collective punitive acts that injure the innocent. We would not tolerate even one or two of these violations in the United States. The Mennonite Church, for example, had programs on a grassroots level in health, agriculture, and education. The Israelis have said these programs are illegal and have closed them down. Universities in the West Bank have been closed most of this year and more recently primary and secondary schools for Palestinians have been shut down. Efforts to organize tutoring or recreation for young Palestinians who are out of school have been declared illegal.

Suffering is being inflicted, not by isolated incidents, but as state policy carried out by the Israeli Defense Force. It is both physical and psychological.

One method of harassment is forcing men and boys to come out of their houses at 1 or 2 in the morning, making them sit for two hours, or sometimes as many as six hours, listening to psychological lectures from Israeli officials, the aim being to keep them awake at night and upset. Another version of this is to take their identification cards away from them and tell them they have to collect them at midnight.

Deaths continue to mount and are now well over 300 since December a year ago. During my week in Jerusalem the Jerusalem Post reported one or more persons shot to death each day by the Israeli Defense Forces with a four-year-old being killed on one of the days - not to speak of arrests, raids into refugee camps, and constant intimidation of Palestinian Arabs, who are not permitted to stay overnight in Jerusalem.

I learned that Israeli citizens are required to be armed and one may expect to see, as I did, an attractive Israeli family, a man, his wife, and three children, walking in Jerusalem in broad daylight, the father carrying a submachine gun. Add to this the fact that defense forces are strategically stationed everywhere in Jerusalem armed with submachine guns and teargas cannisters. One afternoon walking from the Damascus Gate to the Western Wall, I saw police standing in the window over the medieval gate, clusters of soldiers on patrol both outside, inside and stationed at various places a few hundred feet apart on the main street across the Old City. It is an intimidating presence.

The Patriarch of one of the Eastern Churches received the Secretaries of Christian World Communions. In welcoming the group he was translated to say: "The situation is bad." One of our group who knew the language later told us the translation had not been correct. What he actually said was, "This is the worst time in our history". He told us he had seen something the day before



that made it impossible for him to sleep that night. "I was going to Jericho and we saw a crowd of people weeping and cursing. They were standing looking at two beautiful two-story houses." He had the car stopped to see what was happening. In a few minutes he said "machines" were brought up, and bulldozers destroyed those two lovely houses and the children were thrown out. The patriarch got out of the car and asked why. The reason given, "The children were throwing stones."

One day three community leaders from Jerusalem and Ramallah took four of us who had come from different parts of the world to visit two refugee camps north of Jerusalem. The main entrances of both camps were sealed shut with crude concrete pillars. Israeli Defense Police were stationed just outside ready to storm into the camps. The people living in the camps are cut off from the main roads and have no easy access in or out. These camps go back to 1948 and have become like villages. I was told that only twenty-five percent of Palestinian Arabs live in refugee camps. The other seventy-five percent are in villages, under far worse conditions.

We first visited a kindergarten for young children, who are the only children allowed to study. It was beautifully run. The children were neat and clean, which is an exceedingly difficult accomplishment for the mothers as life is cramped and running water limited. We visited the three or four classrooms and met a woman who lives in the camp and cleans the school building. She was dressed in typical Palestinian dress, has five sons, the oldest nineteen and the youngest thirteen. Four are in jail and this woman has to go from place to place to try to find where they are.

People in camps such as this are at the mercy of the Israeli Security Forces. They often go from house to house getting young boys and men out of their beds and subjecting them to humiliating searches. People can do nothing

about this. I learned the night of our visit, a Security Forces bulldozer had moved into that camp in the afternoon and had apparently done destructive things.

Our next stop was a much larger camp. An eight- or nine-year-old boy and his young brother, who was perhaps three, were standing near the door of the car. I spoke to them and the younger child began to cry. His face was full of fear. I saw it not only in the faces of the young, but in the faces of a half dozen grown men I met in Jerusalem who live in the surrounding villages, are married and have children. They were waiters, desk clerks in hotels, owners of shops and employees. One spoke to me on two occasions. Words were hard to come by, but he repeatedly held out his arms and let them drop to his side in resignation. He seemed to be living without hope.

In Gaza 3,000 of those that have been hospitalized for injuries, many serious, are under fifteen years of age. One traveling companion in our group of four said that in the twenty minutes she was in a hospital in Gaza two children were brought in who had been shot.

Television pictures of the Gaza Palestinian camp and the Israeli settlement in Gaza, are a contrast of luxury and extreme privation. One third of the land in Gaza was confiscated for 2,500 Jewish settlers. 650,000 Palestinians are forced to live in the other two-thirds. One-third of the water in the area goes to the 2,500 and the two-thirds left for the 650,000!

It is not only in Gaza that one has the impression of desirable land being taken away from Palestinians under the pretext of it being needed for "security purposes". The building of settlements, security headquarters, and industrial areas on confiscated land is most obvious around Jerusalem itself. It is difficult to understand how a ultra-modern Hyatt Regency hotel has a security purpose, but it is there, and people were pushed off their land and their property taken for this construction.

In East Jerusalem and the walled Old City, Palestinian Arab shopkeepers open their shops only three hours a day and often once every week call a strike and do not open at all. The Israeli forces have tried to break the back of this resistance to the occupation by cutting the steel shuttered doors open with blow torches or, as punishment, welding the shop doors closed so they could not open at all. This has failed. The shopkeepers, in this way, say to the occupying government they have some ability to rule their own lives. I asked the reason why they only open for these three hours each day. The shopkeeper replied, "It is our discipline to go on strike certain days and to open nine to twelve each day. This is a great hardship, but (it is) to show that we have some self-determination."

To counter these closings the security police make it difficult for the merchants, particularly in East Jerusalem. Saladin Street in the Arab area of East Jerusalem is the main artery for traffic around the old walled city. At just the time the shops were trying to open in the mornings, I saw the Defense Forces blocking the street to keep cars out. Then before the twelve-noon closing time, amid the rush hour traffic, the street was closed again. I asked a shopkeeper why the Israeli Defense Force did this. He answered, "To let the people know they have the power to do it"! This intimidating power wielded over the lives of defenseless people is, from the perspective of those of us who believe in democratic process, frightening. I was told about a well-known physician in Nablus who was having uninvited Israeli security police camped on the flat roof of his house every night, posted there as guards. It was a private house, but the roof taken over as a lookout post. The doctor appealed to the security headquarters, "Could you please not have them there on the roof of our house? I am doctor. They drink, dance on the roof, use the toilet and it seeps down. We cannot sleep at night." The official said, "I'm sorry,



doctor, but it's not your house. It belongs to Israel. This is our land. You may have the television and a few pieces of furniture in it but the house is not yours. If you don't like it, you can go somewhere else." He took his wife and two sons and migrated to England.

A number of Palestinian people I talked with said, "We no longer care if they want to shoot us on the street." One said, "I've seen too much," and related how three members of his family had been injured, two with hands broken and a girl shot in the leg. "All we want is to live as human beings." In one hospital in Jerusalem, ninety hands of children fourteen years of age and under have been amputated over the past ten months! These children threw rocks and in retaliation their hands were beaten against walls with stones by Israeli soldiers to the extent they could not be saved.

In addition to standard bullets regularly used by the Defense Forces, rubber and plastic bullets have been introduced. The "rubber bullets" can cut a main artery and are lethal at close range. I was given a couple of them. In the center of the hard rubber there is a steel core.

Plastic bullets sound innocent, but they are even more devastating in their effect than metal. They break through the flesh and splinters of shrapnel explode in the muscles and are difficult to remove. The plastic bullets do not kill instantly unless they strike the head or the chest, but physicians say they cause long-range even life-long problems because of the splinters.

The large camp north of Ramallah was under seige for forty-five days in the spring. Electricity was cut as a reprisal and for all this time the people could not go out of their homes! This camp has a new and very beautiful kindergarten building. We watched the young children studying and playing and older girls learning to sew as they were not in school. I noticed that all the windows in this beautifully-designed kindergarten had been broken out and asked

how it happened. "The Israeli police have a stone-throwing vehicle that is like a truck or tank. We don't know the name in English. It is driven through the camp and spews out stones hitting houses and people. The windows in the school have been a casualty. It is the Israeli Defense Force's answer to rock throwing children." The principal said, "Winter is coming and it will be cold, but we can't afford to keep replacing these windows." They hope to secure screens that can be put over them to prevent their being shattered.

An official of an international organization stationed in Jerusalem later told me this Israeli Defense Force answer to the children - the rock thrower - spews stones indiscriminately and it is employed with a perverted touch of humor - to the accompaniment of pop music being played over loud speakers, often roaring into the camp or village at two o'clock in the morning or some other unearthly hour.

A drawing a five-year-old child had made illustrates the psychological damage. He had drawn a jail, a child bleeding from a shot in the chest with his mother, and the stone-throwing machine that had shattered all the windows in his school.

The security police close the camp at will and there is no escape. Two days before our visit five children were taken from their families. As we walked down the street we could see on a road high above the camp a military jeep with four or five security soldiers keeping eye on us. And, above that place, there were fenced in settlements where heavily armed Israeli settlers live on confiscated land and, we were told, continually harass the people in the camp below.

In this one camp, six houses have been demolished in recent weeks. The first one we saw belonged to a family that has a son in jail. He was recently sentenced to two years. The house was destroyed, however, because a second son was taken as a suspect although he is not yet charged. The father appeared and

children of the village, all on the streets because they have no school, clustered around flashing a "V" sign. On the electric lines above, little flags were flying. It is about these flags we have read. The Defense Forces have made children climb the electric poles to pull them down, and several have been electrocuted. The man we met and his family must now live under trees. A tent has been provided by the Red Cross but it is actually a symbolic gesture.

Higher up the hill in the village we came to another mound of rubble and another tent. No one was there at first, then a young boy fifteen or sixteen years of age appeared and stood by the tent erected in the middle of the debris of his destroyed house. He said he was the oldest son. His mother came. She told us she had eight children, and all of them must now live in one room. The husband was taken to jail. Only two persons can visit him at one time. On her first visit the authorities stopped the eldest daughter who was nine or ten, from going in and she was greatly distressed and was turned away crying. While we were talking with the mother, the grandmother appeared and by this time a crowd of children had gathered. She picked out a number of the children, pointing to her grandchildren, saying, "Now they have no home - these eight children." She told of visiting her son in prison. She was crying, but he said, "Don't cry, be strong. This is our struggle." This house was built only a year and a half ago. I was told that when a house is bulldozed it cannot be rebuilt for five years.

The last destroyed home we walked to had been quite a large house. Half of it was for the married children. The mother pled with the police not to destroy it all, but they crushed the entire dwelling with the bulldozer, leaving a huge mound of collapsed walls, household contents, and several families with no place to go. This happened on August 3. The tent the Red Cross provided is erected on the roof of an adjacent house. The older son in this family had been in prison. He was released in a prisoner exchange but could not return and was



deported to Jordan. His mother cannot visit him. She told us they would neither allow her to go on pilgrimage to Mecca because she is the mother of a son who has been in prison. She said some things to me knowing I had come from the United States. She wanted "the big nations, the United States and others, to know of their circumstances and to feel with them". I met her husband who works across the street from his destroyed home welding iron bed frames.

Before leaving the camp while waiting for one of our group, a woman with a tiny baby came up to speak with those who had brought us. She is related by marriage to the first family we visited. Five members of her family are in jail: the leader of this particular camp, who is her father-in-law; her son; two of her grandsons; and her son-in-law who is the husband of the woman we had met with the eight children. Her husband is in the camp, she said, "but he is not safe. They may come for him at any time." She had the baby and three daughters with her. We were told that five men had been arrested at 6 a.m. the day before our visit just because they were standing together. They were charged with "resisting occupation". One standing nearby said, "Here it is the normal thing to be in jail." After leaving the camp we were told it was good we had come on Saturday because usually there are roadblocks and the Israeli police will not let foreigners into that camp.

The really frightening thing I heard during my visit was talk of the "relocation" of Palestinian Arabs. I was reminded of what I saw in Capetown, South Africa, November of last year. Very near the downtown is a large empty area where there are no houses, no shops, no businesses. A lone church building is isolated in this large territory. This was "District 6" of Capetown where the so-called "coloured" population formerly lived. These people were "relocated" or "transferred" into camps out of the city, their houses destroyed, and it is a great blot on Capetown that, to this day, evokes feelings of shame.

In fact, the multinationals will not build on this land because of the tens of thousands of people forceably re-moved from it.

If Israel chooses to take Palestinian land for newly arrived Israeli settlers or confiscate it for the State and destroy the people whose forefathers and foremothers have lived there for hundreds of years, the moral light Israel has historically given the world will be dim indeed, and rather than a victory to be savored, there will instead be a profound sadness on the part of people of good will who everywhere want to think of this land as "holy" and this people as a "light".

Even in Israel there is a small but growing acceptance of the notion there is "a Palestinian side". One senior Israeli officer was quoted in the International Herald Tribune of October 24, 1988, I read on my return flight, "They're doing what we would have done in their place." The same article quoted, however, an Israeli colonel as saying, "We've shown them (the Palestinians) that if they want to arm wrestle, we'll arm wrestle." His words sound bold, but when you know that one side has the submachine guns, the teargas cannisters, and rockthrowing machines that terrorize kindergarten children, it sounds quite cowardly. When you meet the people with whom they are "arm wrestling", as we did, it is even more unbelievable this is happening in a State we are led to believe is democratic. The "arm wrestling" since December of last year has produced 310 Palestinian deaths and 9 Israeli deaths. Palestinian leaders I met said the number of Palestinian fatalities was closer to 500.

One prominent Christian leader addressed our Secretaries Conference. "I am glad you have not cancelled because of the uprising. You have not left us alone. The meaning of the word 'intifada' is 'uprising'. People are seeking an uprisen life in which all carry the image of God."

The last day I spent in Jerusalem, my colleague from Geneva and I stopped in an Arab shop in the Christian section of the Old City. I hesitantly asked

the shopkeeper, a Christian and a member of the Friends Church, if he knew where I might find a shofar, a ram's horn which is used in Jewish festivals and services. My wife had asked me to look for one to use in her Vacation Church School "Bible Marketplace". He said they used to have them, but did not now. After a moment, he spoke to his partner and gave him an address. he personally walked with us to the Jewish section of the walled city and introduced us to a Jewish merchant. The Arab patiently helped us select a shofar from many in the shop. These two merchants together, to my mind, were a picture of what Jerusalem might be. People want to express goodwill and to live in peace.

Toward the end of the week our Conference of Secretaries visited and spent several hours in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. There are many places of significance I had never seen in the church. One was the Chapel of Imprisonment commemorating the place where Jesus was held prisoner. Our leader who lives in Jerusalem and often visits the church said they had started to notice in this chapel little clusters of candles being lit and appearing with increasing frequency. They began to suspect, and later confirmed it to be true, that these were being lighted by mothers of young Palestinian boys who had been imprisoned. More than 17,000 persons have been arrested and imprisoned in 10 months! It was suggested one of our group, Dr. Sam Van Culin, the Secretary-General of the Anglican Consultative Council, light a candle on behalf of us all, and lead in a prayer, remembering those imprisoned children and also his friend, Terry Waite, who is still being held hostage in Lebanon, and other hostages. Sam began his prayer with the words, "I was in prison and you visited me..." As our group was leaving, an Arab woman perhaps 35 years of age who had been waiting outside the chapel rushed to the altar and lit a candle. I began to understand the enormity of the situation of which this was symbolic.

Joe Hale



UNCLASSIFIED  
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8900682

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 HAASS  
002 SCOWCROFT  
003

Z 89021012 APPROPRIATE ACTION  
Z 89021320 FOR SIGNATURE  
X 89030112 SCOWCROFT SGD LTR

UNCLASSIFIED