

Reaching A Compromise

Fred Sparks was an American columnist and reporter for various newspapers and news syndicates who died in 1981 at the age of 61. His passing would have been less noted by his readers and colleagues had it not been for a stipulation in his will allocating a portion of his estate to be transferred to the Palestine Liberation Organization. This provided Sparks' will with considerable attention for several years. But last week, the behind the scenes litigation concluded and Jewish groups involved in the fray appeared satisfied with the results.

Three Jewish groups -- the American Jewish Congress, the World Jewish Congress and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith -- took legal action to prevent the funds, estimated today at about \$25,000, from going to the PLO because it was against public policy to support the PLO, and because, according to New York State Law, the PLO was ineligible to receive the funds since it is not an incorporated organization.

The Court's ruling last week said the money would go to the International Red Cross to be dispensed solely "for the betterment of the living conditions of the Palestinian people." The Jewish groups declared victory, saying that the funds would not go to help finance the PLO's "terrorist activities."

It should be understood that whether the money went to the Red Cross or the PLO, Sparks' unstated, but intended, position appears to have been that the money should be used for the "betterment" of the Palestinians. Some, and perhaps Sparks himself, may have perceived that this could be best achieved through the offices of the PLO. Others, including the Jewish groups, interpret this as best serving the Palestinians when administered through the facilities of the Red Cross.

Either way, the Court's ruling settled the long standing dispute and demonstrated once again that compromise, even this far from the Middle East, takes a long time to reach.

Latest Figures Show That UJA Super Sunday Fundraising Over \$21.9 Million

NEW YORK, N.Y. — With 92 communities reporting so far, Super Sunday 1984 -- the United Jewish Appeal's fourth annual volunteer telephone marathon -- has raised more than \$21.9 million, according to the latest figures compiled at Super Sunday headquarters here.

"Approximately 18,000 volunteers obtained more than 125,000 individual commitments," said Jerome J. Dick of Washington, D.C., UJA Super Sunday National Chairman.

"But we're not home yet," he added. "More than 50 community Super Sunday programs will take place in the coming weeks and months. We expect their achievements to move us toward and past our \$33 million national goal -- for the biggest Super Sunday appeal ever."

Seven communities so far have raised more than \$1 million each: Boston, Chicago, MetroWest (New Jersey), Miami, New York, Philadelphia and Washington. Three of them, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, have passed the \$2 million mark.

Lewis Says U.S. Embassy Should Be In Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (WNS) — U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis said here that he regards Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and knows it is an "affront" to Israel to have the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv rather than in Jerusalem. It should have been moved there in the 1950s, Lewis said.

The U.S. envoy made his remarks to 70 American Jewish

leaders representing the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations at a dinner recently at the Jerusalem Hilton. He explained that over the years it had become difficult for the U.S. to transfer its embassy to Jerusalem because of the belief that the move would harm the U.S. ability to make peace in the Middle East.

The situation could

be resolved eventually only through a peace agreement that included a section on Jerusalem, Lewis said. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is scheduled to hold a hearing next week on a resolution by Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D. NY) asking that the embassy be moved to Jerusalem.

The U.S. has up to now refused to recognize Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem which it regards as an issue subject to negotiation.

This has caused embarrassment on many occasions when ranking American officials have refused to meet with Israel government officials who have their offices in East Jerusalem. No American official has visited East Jerusalem in other than a private capacity.



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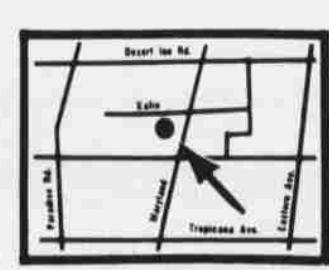
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