by **David Kaplan**

ISRAEL'S

The Wall

The most recognised barricades in history- *The Great Wall of China, Hadrian's Wall and the Berlin Wall* - reflect violent epochs of cultural incompatibility, testifying to man's failure to live in peace with his neighbours.

Incrementally creeping over disputed frontiers, Israel's addition at separation engineering, has instead of holding back "The Barbarians at the Gate," invited the whole world in, weighing in with fear and loathing.

"The motivation to go to The Hague was to show on the streets outside the courthouse that there was a massive Jewish protest against the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) crusade to try Israel for an act of self-defence," says **Roy Chweidan** of Netanya, who joined over 500 Israelis in an impressive display of solidarity. "There were over 3000 supporters, a fair number of them non-Jews. One of the most impressive groups was **Zaka**, whose volunteers were easily identifiable by their bright yellow jerseys." Founded in 1995, Zaka is an acronym for *Zihui Korbanot Ason*, Hebrew for Identification of Disaster Victims. "They are often the first rescue workers to appear at the scene of a terrorist bombing or shooting and the last to leave."

COURTING PUBLIC OPINION

While arguments against Israel were heard on the first day of the hearings by a representative of the South African government, former South African Roy was in the thick of the demonstrations outside the courthouse in the battle for public opinion.

Most prominent, says Roy, "was the burnt out mangled wreckage of Bus no. 19 which had been blown up in a recent suicide attack in Jerusalem, and stood as visual testimony of the tragic necessity of the security barrier to protect Israeli citizens."

Israelis protesting in the Hague, hold posters of their loved ones killed in terrorist attacks and display the skeleton of a blown-up bus.

Complementing the bus exhibit was the human dimension — "people who had lost loved ones in terror attacks. **Almagor**, the Organisation of Casualties of Terror Acts, had organized their presence there with banners and photos of the victims. It was heart wrenching seeing a parent having lost five members of her family, a father having lost a son, a mother

BACK TO THE WALL

her daughter, a student his girlfriend.

KANGAROO COURT

Following on the Court's decision to allow the Arab League to be a party at the hearing, Almagor also made overtures to join in the discussion on the security fence. As an Almagor spokesman remarked, "while we are not overjoyed at the fence, we cannot allow this unbridled hypocrisy and bias to prevail at The Hague." **Alan Dershowitz** endeavoured to expose the bias, referring to the ICJ as a kangaroo court because judges had been appointed by countries that were participating in the hearing."

A contingent of Russian Jewish students join the protest. Roy Chweidan of Netanya wrapped in an Israeli flag in The Hague.

Roy cites the example of the Egyptian justice at the ICJ, Dr. Nabil Al-Arabi who was reported to have expressed prior to the hearing that "Israel's arguments *will prove* to be groundless… and it will be possible to impose sanctions upon it for the first time."

"Particularly irksome," said Roy, "was that despite the large turnout of supporters who had come from afar, the local Dutch press focused pictorially in their newspapers on the few *Neturei Karta* representatives, who were denouncing Israel with their banners. One read "**Solution – Peaceful Dismantling of the Zionist State**." These were the same guys who demonstrated at the UN Conference on racism in Durban in 2001."

Interviewed in Afrikaans on Dutch radio, Roy was asked why he had travelled to The Hague. Holding his banner - *Court Hands Off The Fence* - Roy replied, "We are here to protest the illegality of the ICJ to judge Israel in taking defensive steps against terrorism."

Proponents in Israel argue that Israel needs the barrier to keep out Palestinian attackers intent on causing maximum death and destruction to its civilian population. Palestinians, and many Israelis who support the idea of a fence, charge that this barrier amounts to a land grab, and disrupts the Palestinians' daily lives as they try to reach jobs, schools and farmland. As the debate *rages*, so does the intensity of both peoples *rage* and with each passing day, adds, in the words of Pink Floyd, "Another Brick In The Wall".•

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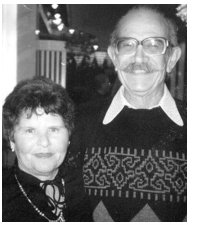

Gaby and Freda Haimovitz celebrate thier golden wedding anniversary.

Jack & Ruth Trappler.....Kalley Saacks on his 75th birthday
Jeff & Lily Milstein.....Kalley Saacks - 75th birthday
Joel & Joyce Katz.....Kalley Saacks – 75th birthday
Monty & Myra Zion.....Kalley Saacks – 75th birthday
Cecile Rechtman .....Keren Telfed
Jack & Rae Galloon.....Ivan Schneiderman on his 70th birthday
Jack & Rae Galloon.....Solly Scher on his 80th birthday
David & Hilary Kaplan.....Les Amdur on his 70th birthday
Sidney & Iris Kaplan.....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Dave Wulffhart & Hilary Edelstein...Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Bokkie & Rochelle Zegal .....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Theodore & Rika Segal .....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Zvi & Dorothy Pantanowitz.....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Reuven & Yael Lacob.....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Eli & Nurit Raz .....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Yaakov & Rachel Pincus .....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Abe & Rose Hurwitz .....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Moadon "MeRechavim" Manof.....Les Amdur – 70th birthday
Moshe & Heidi Tapnack .....Keren Telfed – in appreciation
Ian & Ruth Froman.....Hymie & Kikey Josman on their birthdays
Orkie Chesed.....Solly Harris on his 80th birthday
Gladys Shlugman .....Cecil Collins on his 80th birthday
Phil & Wendy Goldstein .....Mossie Tucker on his 80th birthday
Doreen Levit .....Mossie Tucker – 80th birthday
Naomi & Lawrence Fisher.....Boaz & Monica Menashe - golden anniversary
Gabi & Freda Haimovitz.....Boaz & Monica Menashe – golden anniversary
Ivan & Shirley Kantor .....Boaz & Monica Menashe – golden anniversary
Cecil & Pat Breiter .....Boaz & Monica Menashe – golden anniversary
Leslie & Tova Berman.....Boaz & Monica Menashe – golden anniversary
Seymour & Hadassah Fisher.....Boaz & Monica Menashe – golden anniversary
Dave & Gail Bloom.....Boaz & Monica Menashe – golden anniversary

Les Amdur celebrates his 70th birthday.

Cecil & Pat Breiter ..... Boaz & Monica Menashe – golden anniversary
Gladys Gerstle & Glenda Leigh ..... Tilly Fleishman on her special birthday
Gilda Fleishman & Isaacs family ..... Tilly Fleishman on her special birthday
Justin & Pamela Silver ..... Cyril Segal on his 85th birthday
Sharon Bernstein ..... Joyce Feinberg - in appreciation
Mike & Loraine Solomon ..... Meir Katzin on his 70th birthday
Orkie Chesed..... Rose Hart on her 90th birthday
Annette Milliner, Baruch Giladi..... Reg Donner on his birthday
Freda Pincus..... Barry Samuels on his 90th birthday
Freda Raphael ..... Barry Samuels – 90th birthday
Seymour & Hadassah Fisher..... Elaine Fisher – in appreciation
Molly Bloomberg ..... Howard Desatnik – in appreciation
David & Hilary Kaplan..... Sandra & Naty Kagan on their 40th anniversary
Jillian Milliner..... Phyllis Sachar on her birthday
Robin Reiss ..... Daniel Klug on his 50th birthday
Orkie Chesed & family..... Monte & Rose Freedman on their 61st wedding anniversary
Ami & Mayera Glassman ..... Tanya Jochelson on her marriage in Australlia
Jack & Ruth Trappler..... Barry Samuels on his 90th birthday
David & Hilary Kaplan..... Niel Bobrov on his 60th birthday
Danny & Janine Gelley..... Solly & Ghita Sacks on their son's enagagement
Cynthia Reingold..... Keren Telfed
Issy & Merr Scher ..... Natie Kansky on his 80th birthday
Hertzel & Lola Katz ..... Sidney Shapiro on his 60th birthday
Arie Bar-el ..... Carol, Itai, Kyle, Shira
Colin & Hazel King..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandelzweig - golden anniversary
Leslie & Leah Sher..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandelzweig – golden anniversary
Alf & Ida Weinberg ..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandelzweig – golden anniversary
Peretz & Zelda Rootstein..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandelzweig – golden anniversary
Joe Woolf..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandelzweig – golden anniversary
Louis & Isobel Hare ..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandezweig – golden anniversary
David & Bernice Slasky ..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandelzweig - golden anniversary
Manor family ..... Gordon & Dorothy Mandelzweig – golden anniversary