

NEWS

LIVING WITH MOSHIACH AROUND THE WORLD

UNEXPECTED NEWS

BY RABBI ZUSHE KOHN

The old adage, “You can’t fight City Hall,” is going out of style, folks. Or maybe for the *T’mimim* and *Anash*, who’ve decided to square off with the UN, it was never in style to begin with. Whatever the case, some stiff-necked *bachurim*, *yungeleit*, and *ziknei Anash* have made it their business to unite before the nations and let themselves be heard. Armed with posters and papers, *T’hillim* and *chayus*, they gathered together from the four corners of busy Manhattan, to stand before the Isaiah Wall and protest the war being waged against our people. This is the wall, you’ll recall – situated directly across from the UN building – on which is engraved Yeshaya’s prophecy regarding the Messianic era: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares...”

Only the second week of “Operation UN,” organizers insist that their group will demonstrate every Friday until the world understands that G-d gave the

Land of Israel to the Jewish people.

While some might laugh at the naiveté of these holy soldiers, the following episode bears witness to the Divine assistance enjoyed by those who follow the Rebbe’s lead – and the Rebbe did say that every individual must cry out in protest, even if his or her



miniscule act seems completely insignificant.

Here’s the story:

Friday, the 6th of July, at around 6:15 p.m., demonstrators saw a group of about 40 journalists emerge from the UN building. With less than two hours to Shabbos and the protest winding down, demonstrators did not think it wise to start all over again, despite the lure of the news cameras.

One of the reporters left his group and made his way to the demonstrators. “It’s interesting that you guys chose *now* to demonstrate,” he commented to Michael, a leading *shleimus ha’Aretz* activist. “We journalists are just coming from a UN press conference concerning Israel.”

[Note: During October of 2000, three Israeli soldiers were kidnapped by Arab terrorists. The kidnapping took place on the Lebanese border, where UN peacekeeping observers were stationed to monitor the region.

According to recent reports, the observers actually helped the terrorists carry out their plans, and also recorded certain aspects of the kidnapping on video. When Israel asked for the video, which would aid them in identifying and apprehending the perpetrators, representatives of the UN flatly denied having a video in their possession. The lie was exposed about a week and a half ago by the Israeli Secret Service (the GSS), which sent agents to India to track down the observers. Israel is now demanding that the video be turned over to them. The Lebanese, of course, insist that the tape must not be given to Israel. At the above-mentioned press conference, UN representatives briefed journalists on the UN's decision.]

After explaining that he works for a prominent foreign radio program, the journalist said, "A very interesting thing

'Isn't withholding information concerning terrorists, aiding and abetting the perpetrators?' The undersecretary lost his composure and started fumbling for words.

happened at the conference. When the UN undersecretary, General Jean Marie Guehenno, announced that the UN would allow Israel to see the video, but would distort the faces of the

kidnappers so that they wouldn't be identifiable, and that the UN would not turn over the kidnappers' blood samples – by which they could be identified – to Israel, an Arab reporter asked, 'Isn't withholding information concerning terrorists, aiding and abetting the perpetrators?' The undersecretary lost his composure and started fumbling for words. Then reporters started firing questions and exchanging remarks; it took a few minutes for things to get calm again...

"This whole episode," he concluded, "took place at the exact same time that you guys were standing out here, asserting your G-d-given right to the Land of Israel." Then he pointed to the Rebbe's picture: "I have a picture of the Rebbe hanging in the front room of my home."



Encouraged by the surprised expressions he saw on the faces of his small audience, the journalist explained that he was now in the process of converting to Judaism. "Through the Orthodox, of course," he reassured the group. Then – clearly on the spur of the moment – he said, "Follow me, I want to show you something."

The group explained that it was getting close to Shabbos and they would have to start heading back to Brooklyn. "It'll only take a minute," he insisted, beckoning them to follow. He led them to the building adjacent to the Isaiah Wall.

"As you can see," he explained, "the address on this building is 765. The next building is 771, and the one after that is 777. Some time ago a friend of mine got married in 771. When I came out of the building, I stopped a police officer, gestured toward the UN complex, which covers an enormously wide area, and asked, "What's the address there?"

He surveyed the buildings in our immediate vicinity, and said simply: "770."

Remember the *sicha* of Parshas Mishpatim 5752? The Rebbe elaborates there, in an extensive footnote, on how

the founding of the UN and its general mission are intrinsically connected to the mission of *Nesi Doreinu* and the refinement of the nations of the world.

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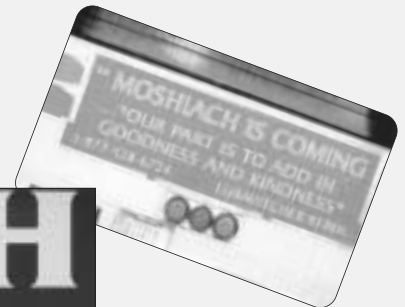
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MIAMI BEACH BUS SIGNS WELCOMING MOSHIACH

MOSHIACH NOW



Bumper stickers going on the central cabs in Miami Beach



Picture of Moshiach signs running on two city buses in Miami Beach, Florida. The bus advertising is done through the city bus systems, which have a special rate for charitable causes (at least in Miami Beach).

RABBI GRONER VISITS YESHA

Rabbi Leibel Groner, the Rebbe's secretary, has been visiting and *farbrenging* in many *yishuvim* scattered throughout Yesha. In each place he has encouraged the residents and told them about how the Rebbe screamed about *shleimus ha'Aretz* thirty years ago, prophesying the current circumstances.

Rabbi Groner began his visit on Shabbos Parshas Chukas in Efrat, where he was hosted by *shliach* Rabbi Nissan Nachshon. A well attended *farbrengen* was held Friday night, along with the *rav* of Efrat, Rabbi Riskin. At this *farbrengen*, as well as at the *farbrengen* the next day, Rabbi Groner told miracle stories of the Rebbe and the lessons to be learned from them. He also encouraged the residents who live in danger. On Motzaei Shabbos the residents held a *Melaveh Malka farbrengen* in Rabbi Groner's honor.

From Sunday until the end of the week, Rabbi Groner made the rounds of *yishuvim* in Yesha. He went to Beit El Sunday afternoon, though not before giving a lecture to Machon Chana graduates living in Eretz Yisroel. His visit began with a tour of the *t'fillin* factory, where Rabbi Groner was impressed by the high level of *hidur* of the *t'fillin*.

Rabbi Groner was hosted by the *rav* of the *yishuv* and the *rosh yeshiva*, Rabbi Zalman Melamed. There was a Chassidus class given in the afternoon, with the participation of all the students of the *yeshiva ha'gevoha* and their teachers, in addition to many residents of Beit El.

Rabbi Groner related a *sicha* of the Rebbe's about the connection between Chukas and Balak to the daily Rambam being learned, with the conclusion

being that the *Nasi HaDor* is considered the *aron ha'bris* on a level above limitation and finitude. Naturally, *hiskashrus* to him is vital in the life of a Jew.

The highlight of the visit was the *farbrengen* that took place in the hall of the *yeshiva ketana*. The place was packed with *talmidim* of the *yeshiva*, residents of the *yishuv*, and *rabbanim*.

The *farbrengen* began with a video of the Rebbe followed by a *sicha* that Rabbi Groner reviewed. Then Rabbi Groner related stories and miracles of the Rebbe MH"M. He spoke about the horrible situation in Eretz Yisroel,



Rabbi Groner and Anash shocked by the desecration of the grave of Rebbetzin Menucha Rochel in Chevron

noting that whenever he visits Eretz Yisroel he makes a point of visiting the Me'aras HaMachpela. Rabbi Groner said he tried to obtain an appointment to meet with Prime Minister Sharon to tell him what the Rebbe said about *sheleimus ha'Aretz*, but was refused. The *farbrengen* was broadcast the next day on Channel 7.

On Monday, Rabbi Groner went to Chevron along with a group of *Anash* from Kiryat Malachi. Rabbi Groner visited holy graves in Chevron, the Me'aras HaMachpela, the *kvarim* of Yishai and Rus, and Rebbetzin Menucha Rochel. They were shocked

to see the desecration of the *matzeiva*, which is blackened by fires the Arabs ignite there.

Rabbi Groner visited the Tel Romeida neighborhood with caravans protected by sandbags. He could see the homes of the Arabs from where they shoot at the Jewish homes in Tel Romeida, and the bullet holes in the walls. Rabbi Groner encountered many soldiers on duty in the area who acceded to his request to put on *t'fillin*. He told them that the Rebbe says *t'fillin* are a source of protection.

At the end of his tour, *Anash*, residents and some soldiers, sat down to *farbreng* in Merkaz Gutnick near the Me'aras HaMachpela.

From Chevron, Rabbi Groner went to participate in a *siyum* at a Chabad girls school in Bnei Brak, and then attended a dinner of the Chabad house for French speaking Jews which took place at the Merkaz Hotel in Yerushalayim.

Throughout the rest of the week, Rabbi Groner attended various events. In each place he reviewed *sichos* and strengthened people in the *emuna* of Moshiach's coming.

On Thursday, Rabbi Groner wanted to visit Kever Rochel but the military authorities refused his request due to the volatile situation. It was only after pressure was applied by people in senior positions that permission was granted to Rabbi Groner and his wife to visit Kever Rochel. They went in an armored vehicle and prayed to the Almighty about the terrible situation in the Holy Land.

On Friday, Rabbi Groner *farbrenged* in Ashdod with Polish Chassidic Jews who regularly attend the Chassidus class given by Rabbi Mendel Wechter.

THREE-DAY FUNDRAISER FOR BEIS CHABAD LEV HA'SHOMRON

Beis Chabad – Lev HaShomron, which serves as a spiritual lighthouse for the residents of the Lev HaShomron area, held a three-day fundraiser at 770. Beis Chabad – Lev HaShomron which is responsible for 18 *yishuvim*, set up a mobile home fundraiser opposite 770 after much publicity in Beis Moshiach magazine and through signs posted throughout Crown Heights.

The tank was manned from six in the morning until twelve at night for three days around Gimmel Tammuz time, informing people of the

desperate situation in Eretz Yisroel, especially in Yesha. The Chabad house offers *simcha* in the face of sadness and light in place of

darkness. The message was clear: in light of the painful and humiliating situation, there are things the Israeli government must do, and there are things Chabad Chassidim must do, like encouraging *rabbanim* to protest the goings-on and proclaim the position of the Torah. In the meantime, Jews have to live with the situation and we must support them.

The three-day fundraiser targeted Crown Heights, but all donations from anyone anywhere are needed and welcome, and can be mailed to: 383 Kingston Ave. #352 Brooklyn, N.Y. 11213.



Anash and T'mimim by the Beis Chabad – Lev HaShomron presentation in front of 770

TISHA B'AV – YERUSHALAYIM – 70 C.E.

— C.H.

Standing upon a hill in Harei Yehuda
 I look at my home – destroyed
 My tears flow, not from my eyes
 My heart, what vessel can contain
 These tears – there is no comfort
 Yehudim rise up and go
 Your home now belongs to the enemy
 All that remains, empties from our hearts
 Like streams of water that
 Have no river to gather – the overflow
 Will fill each generation until Moshiach
 To remind to connect to hold on
 To our home Yisroel
 I beg of you dear Yid find your heart
 And bind your conscience with the beat
 There you will find that place
 In time, that is above constraint, above
 Hate, above providence
 Bitterness can be sweetened only by hope
 Hold on, become one
 Never forget, alone we are destroyed
 Together we will bring Moshiach