

Jewish leader supports Palestinian state

From MARK A. BRUZONSKY

WASHINGTON, May 30: One of the giants of the American Jewish community has finally totally broken ranks and unequivocally called for the establishment of a "Palestinian State" and direct Israel-PLO negotiations.

Philip M. Klutznick, 77, and beyond doubt the most experienced and accomplished of the generation of American Jews who built the American Jewish community into what it is today, has expressed these views in a pamphlet being

published next month by the Foundation for Middle East Peace here in Washington.

During the Carter administration, Mr. Klutznick served as Secretary of Commerce. Before that, he was President of the World Jewish Congress and President of B'nai B'rith International - the two leading international Jewish organisations, in which he continues to hold the titles of President Emeritus and Honorary President respectively.

Mr. Klutznick was also the first president of what is today known as the President's Conference of major American Jewish Organisations - the umbrella organisation of most Jewish organisations in this

country - and one of the founders of "the Jewish lobby", the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), though he severed his relations with this body some years ago.

Though Mr. Klutznick has been known for some years for speaking his own mind, no major American Jewish personality has ever taken such a firm and unambiguous stand declaring himself openly and without reservation for the PLO and for a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza strip.

Some years ago, during the height of Israel's invasion of Lebanon, in July 1982, Klutznick joined with two other internationally recognised Jewish personalities and declared his support for "Palestinian self-determination" and negotiations between Israel and the PLO in order to bring the Lebanese invasion to an end.

That statement, which was the banner headline in the French daily, "Le Monde" on July 2, 1982, was signed together with Dr. Nahum Goldmann, former President of both the World Zionist Organisation and the World Jewish Congress, and Pierre Mendes-France former Prime Minister of France who ended French involvement in Vietnam.

Since termed "the Paris Declaration" See Back Page

JEWISH LEADER

From Page 1

tion", that statement was directly responded to by Yasser Arafat, who was then under siege in Beirut. Arafat's response was the banner headline in 'Le Monde' the following day.

Both Dr. Goldmann and Pierre Mendes-France have since passed away. But in his newest statement, Mr. Klutznick states "for the first time" that by using the term "self-determination" all three of them "meant Palestinian statehood in one form or another."

In his article, Mr. Klutznick concludes there is an "urgent need for negotiations between Israel and the PLO". Whatever limitations there might be in regard to the Palestinian state, Mr. Klutznick adds, "it is vital that these limitations be agreed upon in a process of Palestinian self-determination by authentic and independent representatives of the Palestinian people."

"Whether a PLO that negotiates directly with Israel is still the PLO of the past, whether an Israel that negotiates with the PLO endangers the security of the state, these have all become semantic obfuscations", Mr. Klutznick observes.

Quoting an Israeli journalist who has recently written with similar views in the 'Jerusalem Post' Mr. Klutznick asks, "If we want peace, with whom shall we make it if not with our enemies?"

"If the PLO is now prepared, finally, to talk and negotiate with the government of Israel, should not the government of Israel be prepared to do the same?" Mr. Klutznick concludes.

Mr. Klutznick warns, "if this dangerous dispute is not now reasonably concluded, the scale of human tragedy in the future might dwarf what has already occurred."

"My fear, and my basic reason for going public at this time and in this way, is the prospect of a cataclysmic setback if our leaders in Washington, in Jerusalem, and in other Middle East capitals, do not find a way to seize an opportune moment such as this."

VOL. VI NO. 15

RAMAZAN-UL-MUBARAK 10, 1405 A.H. - FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1985

PRICE Rs. 2.00

EVERY MORNING FROM ISLAMABAD

Regd. No. R-12

THE MUSLIM

THE PRESS AND THE NATION RISE AND FALL TOGETHER

1-6.P
1-6.85
10.40 II

ISTAG