



## **Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront Archives 1977-1996**

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## Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront Archives

**Period** 1977-1996

**Total size** 1.37 m.

**Consultation** Not restricted

### History

Originated in Paris by a group of people who prepared the meeting of Issam Sartawi, advisor of the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, with Mattityahu (Matti) Peled, member of the Israeli Knesset, in 1982; the Israeli invasion of Lebanon prompted them to found the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront in the same year; starting with an appeal by leading intellectuals the committee sought to strengthen Palestinian and Israeli peace forces in the hope of achieving an enduring peace in the Middle East; Joyce Blau and Jacqueline Grobéty were important organizing members; the committee collaborated closely with the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace (ICIPP), which was founded in 1975; on 18 January 1983 talks between delegates of the ICIPP, including Uri Avnery and Matti Peled, and delegates of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), including Yasser Arafat and Issam Sartawi took place in Tunis; contacts have been continued since but were given a low profile after the murder of Sartawi in Portugal in 1983; the committee also collaborated with the joint Jewish-Arab Progressive List for Peace (PLP), founded in Israel in 1984, campaigning for an independent Palestinian state and a lasting peace in the Middle East.

### Content

Correspondence by Joyce Blau, Jacqueline Grobéty and others with Yossi Amitay 1982, Elieser Feiler 1982-1983, Adam Keller 1984-1985 (-1996) and others; documents concerning the ICIPP, its newsletter *The Other Israel*, the PLP and other Israeli and Palestinian peace organizations 1980-1996; documents concerning the furtherance of peace initiatives by organizations and persons in Western Europe 1982-1996; documents concerning the contacts between Mattityahu (Matti) Peled and Issam Sartawi, including correspondence, reports of press conferences, statements, clippings and other related documents 1982-1983; clippings on the meeting of Matti Peled, Uri Avnery and Yaakov Arnon with Yasser Arafat, Issam Sartawi and other PLO officials in Tunis in 1983; documents concerning the protests in Israel against the war in Lebanon 1982-1985, the UN conference on the question of Palestine in 1983, other conferences 1985-1992, the meeting of Muhammad Miari, Matti Peled and Yasser Arafat in Tunis 1985, the exclusion of the PLP from the Israeli elections 1985, the trial against Israeli Jewish peace activists for political contact with the PLO in 1986 and other subjects; some manuscripts and typescripts by and other documents concerning Matti Peled 1977, 1982-1984, 1988, 1993 and n.d.; copies of *Kav La' Oved* (Workers' Hotline for the Protection of Workers) and other periodicals and clippings (1959-) 1980-1996.

### Arrangement

The collection of the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront was acquired by the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam in 1995. It is not only (a part of) the archives of the committee but it contains also documents from other organisations collected by the committee.

The arrangement of the collection is purely chronological because of the entanglement of the documents regarding the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront, the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace and the Progressive List for Peace and those regarding the activities of the various persons active in these organisations. A further classification of the descriptions could possibly be misleading.

### Administrative information

#### Processing information

List made by Bouwe Hijma in 1996

#### Introduction

#### Previous history

Already for many years there was a circle of people in Paris aspiring an enduring peace in the Middle East. This group animated at first notably by Henri Curiel and Maurice Barth, contributed in particular to the organisation in 1973 of the Bologne conference and in 1976 of what was later known as the 'Paris talks' under chairmanship of Pierre Mendès France.

In 1982, this group participated in the preparation of two press conferences held in Paris, the first on the 17th June by Matti Peled and Uri Avnery, the second on the 20th July by Peled and Issam Sartawi.

Nevertheless, beyond this informal group, there existed no permanent structure giving the peace forces of both camps the possibility to express themselves. Therefore it appeared necessary to constitute a committee.

## **Foundation of the Committee**

The Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront (name in English: Palestine and Israel Shall Live Committee) was founded in Paris in 1982 on the occasion of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. It started with an Appeal by leading intellectuals against this invasion and the structure of a committee was set up to promote the contacts between Palestinian and Israeli peace forces. Their aim was to realise an enduring peace. The Palestinians would get their own independent state. The restitution of their rights to the Palestinians would go hand in hand with the assurance of security to the Israeli.

The official birth certificate of the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront was a letter dated 13 August 1982.

In January 1983 a delegation of the committee visited Israel for talks with representatives of the peace forces. The project gained momentum when the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) invited leaders of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace to visit Tunis for talks with Yasser Arafat and his advisors Abu Mazen, Imad Chakour and Issam Sartawi. These talks took place in Tunis on 18 January 1983. The three-headed Israeli delegation included Uri Avneri and Matti Peled. Further initiatives were given a low profile after the murdering of Sartawi in Portugal on 10 April 1983. Joyce Blau and Jacqueline Grobéty were two of the leading persons in the committee.

## **Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace (ICIPP) and Progressive List for Peace (PLP)**

In Israel the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace (ICIPP) was founded in December 1975. The reason for its founding was the founders' conviction that the political thinking of the PLO had significantly been changed since the Palestinian National Council of 1974 and that a sympathetic response from Israel might strengthen the moderate tendencies in the PLO. The principles of the ICIPP were published in a Manifesto with twelve points in March 1976. Since then, the ICIPP has held a lot of contacts and discussions with the moderate wing of the PLO.

The ICIPP demanded a recognition of the PLO by the Israeli government as legitimate partner to the conflict and consequently a legitimate partner to the peace process.

Leading persons in the ICIPP were Uri Avneri and Knesset member Matti Peled. After the foundation of the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront contacts with the ICIPP flourished.

The ICIPP issued *The Other Israel*. Newsletter of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace. The ICIPP is also connected with the Progressive List for Peace (PLP). The PLP, founded in the spring of 1984, is an association of 'Jews and Arabs, Arabs and Jews, citizens and residents of the state of Israel', who have agreed to cooperate with the aim of conducting a political and social campaign for the attainment of specific objectives. The most important were guaranteeing an independent Palestinian state and achieving peace between all the states of the region.

Uri Avneri, Rashid Salim, Mohammed Miari and Matti Peled belonged to the leading persons in the PLP. Adam Keller, editor of *The Other Israel*, was also active in the PLP. Keller collected a large documentation collection on the Israel Peace Movement, which he gave later to the International Institute of Social History.

## **LIST**

- 1 Press articles concerning the activities and initiatives of Matti Peled for peace. 1980, 1982, 1984-1985 and n.d. 1 folder
- 2 Documents concerning the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace. 1981 and n.d. 1 folder
- 3 Documents concerning protest advertisements of Jews living in France and Great Britain against the Israeli invasion in Lebanon. 1982. 1 folder
- 4 Documents concerning a meeting of Matti Peled and Issam Sartawi in Paris on the 20th July 1982, including a joint statement. 1982. 1 folder
- 5 Letter from Yossi Amitay. With enclosure. 1982. 2 pieces
- 6 Letters from Elieser Feiler, Kibbutz Yad Hanna, Israel. 1982-1983. 1 cover
- 7 Documents concerning the actions, opinions and publications of Daniel Amit, founding member of the Committee against the war in Lebanon, and of Benjamin Cohen. 1982-1984. 1 folder
- 8-9 Documents concerning the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront. 1982-1988. 2 folders
- 10 Documents concerning protests of Belgian Jews against the politics of the Israeli government. 1982, 1988. 1 folder
- 11 Documents concerning the memory of Issam Sartawi, a Palestinian leader murdered in Portugal on the 10th April 1983 and the decision of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace to erect a monument commemorating him. With documents concerning the process against his murderer. 1983-1985. 1 folder
- 12 Documents concerning Simha Flapan. 1983 and n.d. 1 folder
- 13 Manuscripts by Matti Peled on the foundation of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace in 1975 and the peace initiatives in the Middle East, and a curriculum of Peled. 1984. 1 folder
- 14 Letters adressed to Matti Peled. 1984. 1 cover
- 15 Documents concerning an information meeting of the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront in Paris on the 3rd February 1984. 1 cover
- 16 Documents concerning the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. 1984. 1 folder
- 17 Correspondance with Adam Keller (The Progressive List for Peace). 1984-1985. 1 folder
- 18 Documents concerning the war in Lebanon, including documents concerning Israeli soldiers refusing to serve in Lebanon, the 'Yesh Gvul' movement and the support by the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront. 1984-1985. 1 folder
- 19-20 Correspondence by Joyce Blau and Jacqueline Grobéty of the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront. With documents regarding The Other Israel. 1984-1987. 2 folders
- 21-22 Documents concerning The Other Israel. Newsletter of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace. 1984-1987. 2 folders
- 23-24 Documents concerning the Progressive List for Peace (PLP) and the Israeli elections. 1984-1987. 2 folders
- 25 Documents concerning the opinions of the French physicist Paul Kessler and some others and their visits to the Middle East. 1984, 1987-1988. 1 folder
- 26 Press articles concerning the meeting of a delegation of the Progressive List for Peace, led by Mohammed Miari and Matti Peled, with Yasser Arafat in Tunis, February 1985. 1985. 1 folder
- 27 Letter from Matti Peled to the members of the Knesseth on the actions of the Israeli army in Lebanon in February 1985. 1985. 1 folder

- 28 Documents concerning the congress 'Quale pace per quale sviluppo? Movimenti di liberazione dei popoli e movimenti per la pace a confronto' in Turin from 29-31 March 1985. 1985. 1 folder
- 29 Documents concerning the exclusion of the Progressive List for Peace from the Israeli elections, the proposed law forbidding contacts between Israeli and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the protest telegramme of fifty French intellectuals against these proposals of the Israeli government. 1985. 1 cover
- 30 Documents concerning an emergency issue of The Other Israel on the proposed 'Anti-Peace Law'. 1985. 1 folder
- 31 Documents concerning a meeting of young Jews and Palestinian Arabs from Israel and the occupied territories, planned by the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront to be held in Jerusalem. 1985-1986. 1 folder
- 32 Documents concerning the conference 'Confronting the Middle East conflict. Which role for Europe, which role for the peace movement' in Amersfoort, The Netherlands from 14-15 February 1986. 1985-1986. 1 cover
- 33 Documents concerning the letter from Muhammad Miari and Matti Peled to the Socialist International on the law proposed by the Israeli government forbidding meetings between Israelis and PLO members and a letter from Peled to the Socialist International on the deportation of Palestinians from the occupied territories. 1985, 1988. 1 cover
- 34-35 Documents concerning the accusation and trial against four Israeli Jewish pacifists for political contact with the PLO in Bucarest on the 7th November 1986 and solidarity actions to support them. 1986-1988. 2 folders
- 36 Statement by Abu Mazen on the 11th June 1987 at a meeting with members of the Israeli peace camp in Budapest. [1987]. 1 cover
- 37 Documents concerning Yehoshafat Harkabi. 1987. 1 cover
- 38-40 Documents concerning the preparation of the series of International Academic Conferences 'Methods of Negotiation and Conflict Resolution. The Case of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict', planned to be held in Belgrade and in Stockholm in 1987-1988 on the initiative of Matti Peled and supported by the Comité Palestine et Israël Vivront, but postponed because of the failure of formal consent by the PLO. 1987-1988. 3 folders
- 38-39 Belgrade Conference.
- 40 Stockholm Conference.
- 41 Typescripts of 'Reactions of solidarity amongst Israeli Jews concerning December's events in the occupied territories' and 'Reaction of solidarity and peace-seeking statements amongst Israeli Jews concerning the events in the occupied territories'. 1988. 1 folder
- 42 Typescript of 'Israel and South Africa 1977-1981. Business as usual, and more' by Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi. N.d. 1 piece
- 43 Typescript of 'Mission à Beyrouth du 8 au 13 Juin 1985' by Cécile Goldet, Monique Midy and Robert Swann'. [1985]. 1 piece
- 44 Statement of the Progressive List for Peace on the accusations by Matti Peled against the Israeli government because of the bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis. N.d. 1 cover
- 45 Manuscript in Arabic. N.d. 1 piece
- 46-50 Various documents. 1982-1988. 5 folders

- 46 1982.
- 47 1983.
- 48 1984-1986.
- 49 1987.
- 50 1988.
- 51-54 Press clippings and articles. 1982-1988. 4 folders
  - 51 1982.
  - 52 1983-1984.
  - 53 1985-1986.
  - 54 1987-1988.

### First accrual 1996

- 55 Letters from Uri Avnery and Adam Keller on behalf of Gush Shalom to Joyce Blau. With annexes. 1994-1996. 1 folder
- 56 Letter by Matti Peled. 1993. With clippings concerning Peled. 1977, 1993. 1 folder
- 57 Biographical data concerning Henri Curiel. 1989, 1994 and n.d. With a letter by Steven David Masters. 1994. 1 folder
- 59-59 Documents concerning Israeli and Palestinian peace organizations. 1990, 1994-1996. 2 folders
- 60-61 Documents concerning the furtherance of the peace movement by organizations in Western Europe and the European Peace Initiative. 1993-1996 and n.d. 2 folders
- 62-63 Documents concerning international conferences. 1990, 1992. 2 folders
- 64 Copies of newsletters of 'Kav La'Oved' (Workers' Hotline for the Protection of Workers). 1992, 1994-1996, n.d. 1 folder
- 65 Copies of some other periodicals. 1990-1996. 1 folder

### Second accrual 1996

- 66 Copies of letters by Mattityahu (=Matti) Peled to Joyce Blau and to Isam Sartawi. 1982. With a copy of a statement by Peled and with clippings and other printed material. 1981-1982. 1 folder
- 67 Other correspondence by Peled. 1982-1983. 1 folder
- 68 Copy of a joint statement by Matti Peled and Isam Sartawi in 1982. With a verbatim report of the replies at their press conference on 20 July 1982. 1 folder
- 69 Copy of a joint statement by Matti Peled, Uri Avnery and Yaakov Arnon after the death of Isam Sartawi in 1983. With other documents concerning Peled. 1983. 1 folder
- 70 Copy of an address by Matti Peled held in 1983. With a letter to Joyce Blau. 1983. 1 folder
- 71 Typescript of Peled's 'The Struggle for Peace in Israel'. 1982. With a letter from Amnon Zichroni to Matti Peled. 1983. 1 folder
- 72 Photocopy of a translation by Matti Peled of an article by Hisham Sharabi. [1982]. 1 folder

NB. Contains a handwritten and a printed version, both in Arabic and probably of the same article.

- 73 Documents concerning a cancelled trip to Europe by Matti Peled. 1982. 1 folder
- 74-79 Reports of press conferences by Matti Peled and Uri Avnery and by Matti Peled and Isam Sartawi. With annexes and clippings. 1982. 6 folders
- 80-82 Documents relating to the UN conference on the question of Palestine in 1983. 3 folders
- 83 Clippings concerning the meeting of Peled, Avnery, and Arnon with Arafat, Sartawi and other PLO officials in Tunis, January 1983. With clippings of an interview with Peled. 1982-1983. 1 folder
- 84-87 Copies of periodicals and clippings concerning other subjects. (1959-) 1980-1984, 1996. 4 folders

### **Third accrual 1996**

- 88-90 Various documents (still not arranged). 1977-1996. 3 boxes