

Special Report

ON THE COVER

Really United? from page 14

payments, may be separated from other Palestinians, but they identify strongly as part of the Palestinian people.

Gold, author of the recent book *The Battle for Jerusalem*, says the idea that Palestinians might be satisfied with an eastern Jerusalem neighborhood as their future capital is an "Israeli illusion."

"The real issue in Jerusalem comes down to access to holy sites," he said. The Palestinians "want the Old City. If you simply pull back from east Jerusalem neighborhoods, the Palestinians will demand the Old City, which is their real goal."

Hillel Cohen, a historian who just published *The Market Square is Empty: The Rise and Fall of Our Jerusalem*, said, "I don't think there's any debate on the facts of life in Jerusalem. The debates are what to do with reality. Should some neighborhoods be handed to the Palestinian Authority? Should regional municipalities be established? What will happen to the Temple Mount?"

Rami Nasrallah, an urban planner who heads the board of the International Peace and Cooperation Center in eastern Jerusalem, said efforts were never made to truly unite the city, with equal resources given to the Jewish and Arab sectors.

Meanwhile, he said, as the security barrier makes life increasingly restrictive for Jerusalem Arabs and as an entire generation of Palestinians liv-

ing outside the city limits grows up without being able to visit the city and its holy sites, the situation becomes increasingly volatile.

Both the Israeli and Palestinian governments are weak, and even with the best of intentions, the political force needed to broker a peace deal is lacking, he said.

Hasson, the geographer, said that in the absence of a permanent resolution of Jerusalem's status, interim solutions are needed. He suggested three options:

The first is based on the Brussels example, where one overarching municipality deals with larger issues of infrastructure and planning and two separate municipalities oversee cultural, religious and social issues.

A second option could be a unilateral separation, with Jewish neighborhoods under Israeli control and Arab ones under Palestinian Authority control.

Acknowledging that the city is almost equally divided among Arabs, Orthodox Jews and non-Orthodox Jews, Hasson said a third option would be to create separate boroughs for each sector. The Old City itself could be a fourth borough.

Each of these possibilities has its shortcomings, Hasson acknowledged, but suggested, "These could be the first steps to a permanent-state solution and could change the frame of mind of both sides." □

Standing Up For Israel



Robert Rollinger

A junior at Southfield High School at the time, Robert Rollinger of West Bloomfield recalls encountering someone who wasn't pleased with Israel's victory.

"I was in geometry, and the kid who sat in front of me, who I didn't realize was an anti-Semite, said he was happy that the Egyptians were going to kill the Jews and drive them into the sea," he recalls. "When the teacher wasn't looking, I hit the guy. I didn't get in trouble because the teacher didn't see it, and the guy kept his mouth shut after that."

— Don Cohen, JN special writer

'Made Me Want To Go To Israel'



Frank Hoffman

Frank Hoffman of Farmington Hills was a student at the University of Illinois at Chicago and had just finished the spring quarter of school when he heard that fighting had begun. He was with a group of Jewish friends who were trying to become affiliated with the national Jewish fraternity ZBT.

"A bunch of us talked about going over there and the next thing I knew it was over," Hoffman recalled.

"We were beside ourselves with the success of the Israelis. It made me want to go to Israel, but it took me 23 years more to get there."

— Don Cohen, JN special writer

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