

**Rainbow Bridge rally**

**Demonstrators protest resolution**

By MAXINE KOPEL

About 800 demonstrators from both Canada and the U.S. gathered at the Niagara Falls Rainbow Bridge last Sunday to chant, sing and speak in protest of the recent United Nations resolution equating Zionism with racism. The rally took place in the cold November sun, while flags and placards waved above the crowd.

The rally was sponsored by the York Jewish Student Federation, the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Canadian Zionist Federation and the Ontario Jewish Students' Council of the Canadian Zionist Federation. Students from the University of Buffalo and Buffalo State University were there, as well as representatives from a number of Canadian universities besides York.

"Everyone was notified," said Shelley Rabinovitch, co-ordinator of the rally. "We wanted it held at a border so northern U.S. kids and the Southern Ontario kids could

get there."

According to Rabinovitch, there was also a biblical reason for the choice of location. "God made the rainbow promising never again to wipe out everything on earth with a flood," she said.

Among the speakers at the rally were Phil Givens, MPP for Armourdale and president of the Canadian Zionist Federation, Larry Grossman, MPP for St. Patrick-St. Andrew, and Stewart Smith, MPP for Hamilton-Wentworth.

All the speakers received enthusiastic support and most had their speeches interrupted by applause from the crowd.

"Zionism is the antithesis of racism," said Givens. "It is the principle of the Old Testament... the highest ideal of democracy regardless of religious beliefs, race, creed or colour."

"The resolution may lead to the eradication of Israel. It will give the pretext in Russia to harass Jews... it is a very terrifying



Protesters at the Rainbow Bridge rally on Sunday.

prospect for Jews all over the world. Let us overcome our enemies as we have done in ages past."

Smith, who was representing the Ontario Liberal Party, said that "the U.N. makes it extremely clear that they are playing deadly

games. Maybe the U.N. is already on the slide; maybe not. World order is what we hope for. I'm afraid the U.N. will go the way of the League of Nations."

The rally was held to thank the U.S. and Canadian governments for voting against the resolution, as well as to voice disgust and outrage at the U.N. decision. It was a peaceful gathering: the only hint of violence was on the placards, which compared the anti-Zionist resolution with Hitler.

Said Rabinovitch, "This rally is only the beginning."

**Al Hout gets chance to speak**

By SHELLEY RABINOVITCH

Shafik Al Hout, vice consul of the Palestinian Liberation Organization's delegation to the United Nations finally got an opportunity to speak in Toronto last Sunday at the Don Heights Unitarian Church at Kennedy and Ellesmere.

Al Hout's original engagement at the Ontario College of Education was cancelled due to protest from the audience.

On Sunday, Al Hout referred to the Wednesday incident. "The Zionist organizations and those who belong to them have started to feel a certain fear of what we might say, uncovering the reality, and this is why they have tried their best to not give me the chance to speak," he said.

The church only held about 500 people and the Metro police were out in force to control the crowds of pro- and anti-PLO demonstrators which had gathered outside.

Originally scheduled for the Inn on the Park, Al Hout's speech was

transferred to the Holiday Inn on Wynford Dr. and then to the church, as threats on Al Hout's life gave the hotel owners second thoughts.

"I didn't have any doubts that democracy eventually wins," said Al Hout, "and it won in Toronto."

Of his personal experiences, Al Hout said, "I have lived in Palestine. When I was chased out, I was 16 years old.

"As a matter of fact, had it not been for the British colonialists every time, the Palestinian Arabs, Jews and Moslems would be living in an ideal society. It only happened when the Zionist doctrine was implemented in Palestine that we saw the new child — the thief, the murderer, the robber.

"All that the Zionist movement has done to the Jewish people is to convert them, to transport them from small ghettos in Warsaw and Kiev to a bigger ghetto in the Middle East."

Speaking on the breakdown of the PLO into factions, and the

feeling that Arafat sold out to the United Nations, Al Hout said "peace is not surrender. We are not going to surrender. We have nothing to worry about. This is a revolution until victory, and not until surrender. If I do not see Palestine, free Palestine, in my life, I will be content and happy to pass the torch to my son to carry on the fight."

Following the speech, the pro-Palestinian group lined up across the street from the approximately 100 Zionist picketers and exchanged insults with them. The rally ended with tempers flaring to the same fever pitch they had in the OCE auditorium.



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