

1993



Opposing Oslo

In the giddy atmosphere that settled upon much of Israel in the early days of the Oslo process, when many Israelis believed that they were close to finally achieving peace, one who pointed out the fatal flaws of negotiations with the PLO often was denounced as a warmongering extremist. The public discourse, shaped by the Rabin administration and the Israeli media, largely refused to acknowledge the probability that providing hardened terrorists with territory, weapons, and money would prove inadvisable.

From the very beginning, even in this atmosphere, the Almagor Terror Victims Association succeeded in organizing opposition that was taken seriously by the media and public. Because of the status of TVA members as victims of the very terrorist groups with which the Rabin administration then was negotiating—and which continued murdering people throughout—it was not possible to discount the position of TVA that talks with the PLO were a grave mistake. The fight against Oslo took TVA activists across Israel and even brought Chairman Meir Indor to the US Capitol to brief American lawmakers on the reality of Arafat and the PLO.

A characteristic TVA rally took place in November 1993 following the murder of Chaim Mizrachi by Yasser Arafat's Fatah. At the rally Mizrachi's father and mother led a protest of the still continuing Israeli concessions that had placed Arafat and his associates within easy striking range of soft Israeli targets.

Another rally attendee noted the stark contrast between the diplomatic discussions and the harsh reality: "Maybe at the Knesset they're feeling peace, but we're not feeling it on the ground."



*The bereaved family of Chaim Mizrachi
—father Pinchas, mother Mazal, younger brother Yitzchak—and TVA chairman Meir Indor,
protesting the Rabin administration's enablement of Arafat's terrorism.*