

RELEASE IN PART
B5,B6

From: PIR <preines [redacted]>
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2009 5:20 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: H; Shapiro, Andrew J
Subject: Re: Edinburgh Film Festival israeli Boycott

B6

B5
B6

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

B5

On 5/25/09, Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov> wrote:

> We will confer in the morning and come up with a plan

>

> Also, sent Huma some info on NK to pass on to you.

>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: H <HDR22@clintonemail.com>

> To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Shapiro, Andrew J; 'preines [redacted]

> [redacted]

> Sent: Sun May 24 21:25:02 2009

> Subject: Fw: Edinburgh Film Festival israeli Boycott

>

> Pls read Brian's message and all the email traffic below. What can we

> do about this? Let me know if you have ideas. Thx.

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Brian Greenspun [redacted]

> To: H2

> Sent: Sun May 24 17:21:40 2009

> Subject: Fw: Edinburgh Film Festival israeli Boycott

>

> Hi hillary,

> Please call me about this if you have a moment. The message is

> self-explanatory, apparently there is no american voice in place to

> speak out or lead on this issue so --there is no voice. I believe you

> know Bruce Ramer who is my brother-in-law, former president of

> american jewish committee and well-respected entertainment lawyer in la. And, he is right.

> Look forward to seeing you next week in washington. Best, brian

>

> -----

> Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

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> From: Bruce M. Ramer [redacted]
> To: Brian Greenspun
> Sent: Sun May 24 14:08:16 2009
> Subject: FW: Edinburgh Film Festival israeli Boycott
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>
> Brian, First, thanks for a nice family morning and for breakfast.
> Always fun, always interesting and always fulfilling.
>
> Below is a sample of the kind of emails I sent to various people
> (studio heads; Dan Glickman; etc), which have started to generate
> concern, interest and action. AJC is also active on other fronts, as well.
>
> Just below the email you will find the news item which first called
> this abomination to my attention.
>
> I hope you can enlist Hilary's support (and please give her my
> personal best). We need, for many reasons, to have the US protest and
> condemn this outrageous boycott and to oppose the anti-Semitism
> inherent in it; cf Durban. The organizers of the festival must be
> convinced to reverse themselves. This, because of the inherent
> wrongness of it and that if it succeeds, it will encourage and
> motivate those who fomented the boycott to other, probably even worse,
> action. For example, there is in effect or pending (I am not certain
> which) a UK-Israeli treaty on film production; we should cut off at the pass any attempts to derail it.
>
> Our Embassy in London does not yet have our Ambassador. The charge
> d'affaires is Robert Lebaron who I hope will receive appropriate
> instructions from DOS. If he acts quickly, it is likely that other
> nations will follow suit; again, compare Durban.
>
> This is truly appalling and serious and I earnestly solicit your
> assistance with the Secretary, and through you my earnest solicitation
> of her assistance.
>
> With appreciation and love, Bruce
>
> PS Naturally, you are free to share this email.
>
>
>
> Dear Michael, This is disgusting and outrageous.
>
> If you have any films in the festival or can lean on anyone else who
> does, please get them withdrawn. We would not boycott the films of
> any other nation, even those we consider outlaws. Neither should
> they. And they should learn that boycotts beget boycotts.
>
> Thanks for whatever help you can be.
>
> Warmest regards. Bruce
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> May 20, 2009
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> Edinburgh film festival bows to pressure from Ken Loach over Israeli
> boycott
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>
> Mike Wade
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> A row threatened to engulf the Edinburgh International Film Festival
> yesterday after it bowed to pressure from the director Ken Loach and
> returned a £300 grant it had received from the Israeli Embassy.
>
> Sir Jeremy Isaacs, the former chief executive of Channel Four, accused
> the festival's organisers of making "an appalling decision" and called
> on them to rescind it. Describing Loach's intervention as an act of
> censorship, he
> said: "They must not allow someone who has no real position, no rock
> to stand on, to interfere with their programming."
>
> The grant was intended to enable Tali Shalom Ezer, a graduate of Tel
> Aviv University, to travel to Scotland for a screening of her film, Surrogate.
>
> After days of protest against the award from pro-Palestinian
> organisations, Loach, an outspoken opponent of Israel's policies in
> Lebanon and Gaza, urged filmgoers on Monday to boycott Edinburgh.
>
> "The massacres and state terrorism in Gaza make this money unacceptable,"
> he said. "With regret, I must urge all who might consider visiting the
> festival to show their support for the Palestinian nation and stay away."
>
> The intervention brought an immediate capitulation from the
> organisers. In a statement the festival said it accepted that Loach
> spoke "on behalf of the film community, therefore we will be returning
> the funding issued by the Israeli Embassy".
>
> Sir Jeremy said that he was disgusted both by Loach's actions and by
> the capitulation of the festival organisers. "Ken Loach has always
> been critical of censorship of his own work, albeit it was many years
> in the past. The idea that he should lend himself to the denial of a
> film-maker's right to show her work is absolutely appalling," he said. He was "equally horrified"
> that festival organisers should accept that Loach was speaking on
> behalf of all British film-makers.
>
> Sir Jeremy worked closely with Loach in the 1980s when, as chief
> executive of Channel Four, he commissioned a number of controversial
> documentaries from him. One, A Question of Leadership, was made in

- > 1981 but never broadcast, leading to accusations of political
- > censorship from Loach. The irony of the director's present position
- > was all the more obvious, given the spirit of the Edinburgh festival, Sir Jeremy said.
- >
- > "It must be good for cinemagoers at an international film festival to
- > see films by Jews, Arabs, Israelis and Palestinians, to the benefit of
- > all," he said.
- >
- > "I have admired the Edinburgh International Film Festival for many
- > years and would like to think that this appalling decision will be rescinded."
- >
- > Loach's acclaimed new film Looking for Eric has made him the toast of
- > the Cannes Film Festival. It is, uncharacteristically, a comedy,
- > although its lead character is an authentic Loach creation — a
- > Mancunian postman who goes off in search of his idol, the footballer Eric Cantona.
- >
- > Ezer's film makes no reference to war or politics. It is a romance set
- > in a sex-therapy clinic. It won the audience award at an international
- > women's film festival in Israel recently.
- >
- > Lord Janner of Braunstone, a Labour peer and former chairman of the
- > Board of Deputies of British Jews, said that he was disappointed by
- > the festival's decision. "By banning the Israeli Embassy from
- > supporting a film-maker the festival is helping to exclude Israelis
- > from British cultural life, something that is clearly unfair."
- >
- > Last night a spokesman for the EIFF said that although it had returned
- > £300 to the Israeli Embassy, the festival itself would fund Ms
- > Shalom-Ezer's travel to Edinburgh out of its own budget
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