

Rt. Hon Joan Ryan MP

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Rt. Hon Jeremy Corbyn MP
Leader of Her Majesty's Official Opposition
House of Commons
London

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Our Ref: JR13002

Dear Jeremy,

I was deeply disturbed to see the images in this weekend's newspapers which appear to show you taking part in a ceremony in Tunisia in 2014 honouring Black September terrorists who were responsible for the 1972 Munich massacre.

As you will be aware, there seems to be some discrepancy regarding your statement last year that the ceremony was for those who died in the 1985 Israeli air raid on Tunis and both the images printed by the Daily Mail and your own reference in the Morning Star on 5 October 2014 to wreaths being laid "at the graves of those who died on that day [in 1985] and on the graves of others killed by Mossad agents in Paris in 1991".

I believe it is imperative that you urgently address this issue and make clear whether or not you were honouring Black September terrorists and, if so, what part of this organisation's bloody record you believe it is appropriate for a British parliamentarian to seemingly endorse.

More importantly, the widows of some of those who were so brutally murdered at Munich have expressed their disbelief and sadness that you appear to have participated in an event at the graves of their husbands' killers. Even if your participation was inadvertent, I would urge you to offer a full and unreserved apology to the families of the victims of Munich. Whatever our different perspectives on the Israel-Palestine conflict, I am sure that, on a human level, you would wish to reach out to them publicly to express your regret at adding to their suffering.

Finally, I note that, despite repeated invitations dating back two years (and visiting the region two months ago), you still do not appear to have set a date to visit Yad Vashem, the Holocaust museum and memorial in Jerusalem. The contrast between that failure and your trip to Tunis is a stark one, and I would suggest that you may wish to consider the message that it sends to the Jewish community in Britain and the people of Israel.

Yours sincerely,

Rt. Hon Joan Ryan MP

Member of Parliament for Enfield North

Chair, Labour Friends of Israel