

# Hong Kong Language Needs Assessment Project

<http://homepage.mac.com/moogoonghwa/earth/current/hklna/>

*The Beginning of a Solution*

Senator **George J. Mitchell**

Special Envoy to the Middle East

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Employment as Adjunct to Your Person and Mission in the Middle East

Dear Senator Mitchell,

Despite your optimistic tone and obvious goodwill toward the Palestinian and Israeli peoples it must be as obvious to you, as it is to everyone else, that you have accepted a task of some importance -- perhaps the most difficult undertaking of your career. In order to succeed you will surely need able staff with good stamina, profound dedication, and courage. I would be deeply grateful, were you to give my candidacy serious consideration.

My interest in the Middle East dates back to the 1967 Six-Day War when I was still a sophomore in high school. Since then, I have observed carefully my nation's involvement in the Middle East and elsewhere in the world from several national vantage points including those of Germany, France, Japan, Hong Kong, and Saudi Arabia.

In addition to my more than two decades of overseas experience I have a full quiver of research, analytical, legal, and presentational skills. Furthermore, I know how to gather information, persuade people, arrange meetings, coordinate action, obtain commitments, and provide oversight. I also understand failure, disappointment, and defeat, and know how to surmount each of these with pride, dignity, and well-being.

I am a "non-believer" who respects the beliefs of others and understands, yes, both the utility and futility of terror. I also believe strongly in the right to bear arms, the right of self-defense, and the need for restraint. As a social critic, I understand well the hatred that dwells in the hearts of many and the weaknesses of the systems that nurture it. As a social scientist, I am well-versed in the building blocks of human social structure and the mechanisms required to hold these blocks together. Accordingly, I have spent a vast amount of time living and working in cultures very different from my own, not as a US diplomat, serviceman, or corporate representative, rather as a world refugee in search of a home. This experience has taught me not only to respect and appreciate the very different ways in which we view the world, but also the many things that we share in common. I could be just as effective in Palestine as in Washington and would be willing to relocate to either.

Sincerely,

**Roddy A. Stegemann**, A.B., M.A., M.A.

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