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Editor and Publisher Jack Tell
 Business Manager Bea Tell, 870-1255
 Vegas News Reva Schwartz, 737-4639
 and Barney Glazer, Harry Golden, Tina Werner,
 Sid Peilte, Percy Villa, Dayenu Cartoons.

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Editorial

"Words of Wisdom"

Chanuka is a very pleasant holiday. There is a warm glow in the heart as the Chanuka candles are lit. And, besides, at what other time does one get a chance to eat latkes?

The children too delight in the holiday. They get their Chanuka gelt and other presents which, together with the latkes make a picture of radiance in the home. In the olden days, the poor too were remembered on this holiday.

Apart from all these delightful things, the holiday recalls a glorious triumph of the Jewish people.

The conquest by the Maccabees of course occurred long ago. Over two thousand years ago. Maybe after so long a lapse of time, we should forget about it, but the reason we remember is that, deep within us, we know that the same fight still goes on. It is the fight of the big against the little.

Antiochus was ruler over Asia Minor and he was contemptuous of little Judea, but Judas Maccabeus upset his apple cart.

Don't we see something of a repetition of the same story today?

Some ten Arab nations are joined in avowed determination to destroy Israel. Alone, no single one of them would make such a confession, but united they feel big. And, besides, they seemingly count on the help of their Red brother in Moscow -- and he is so big.

And the United Nations, obviously afraid to challenge so many nations, too seems to ally itself with the big.

So, for a while at least, we shall need to remember the message of Chanuka -- the lesson of the Maccabean story about the few against the many.

Day of Infamy

BY DR. SAMUEL SILVER

It's hard to believe that this year marks the 25th anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

To some of us it seems likeonly yesterday. But then we're in the position of that father who says to the teenager in the New Yorker Magazine: "Please don't refer to the Forties as those ancient days."

Where were you when the lights went out? The milestone of the "day of infamy" moves us to recall what we were doing when the grim news struck. Those of us who lived through Pearl Harbor will never forget what we were doing when the tidings hit us, just as we will always remember where we were and what we were doing when FDR died, or JFK died.

For me Pearl Harbor has many messages, but one of them, twenty-five years after, is that the world is subject to change. That is good and that is also bad, depending on how we use the ability to effectuate change.

If such a change can come over Japan, and if Germany too, can display such alterations, there is hope for other changes.

I don't know much Latin, but I know enough to pray a pun. With respect to those divided by discord in the world, a pax on them.

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Guest Columnist

Rabbi Mordecai Levy

FROM Temple Beth Hillel
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Special Language Course

As a result of increased communications (man to man, not necessarily man to the outer solar system), we have finally begun to stress the need to know people through their unique and own languages. There is nothing so gratifying as being able to speak with some, without recourse to an interpreter.

Joseph, in the Torah, spoke to his brothers through an interpreter, but, in actuality, he full well knew and understood them in their mother tongue.

Mistranslations constantly distort the true meaning of original words. Translations leave pale and inept powerful words of prophecy, literature or any of the literary devices. Play on words fade with no hope of reception unless read in the original tongue. Fortunately, we now are leaving our inner strongly defended cocoon of isolation emerging into broad sunlit skies to communicate with people "on home ground."

But, there is another language where progress has been ever slower. The area is religion and the terms that it employs. There is a certain reticence to employ this language or faith, or for that matter, if we do overcome the embarrassment -- to attempt an analysis or comprehension of various terms.

How is it that man became "frightened" before God; feels the "atrophication" of the spirit; this trepidation to "fear" God; this sense of shame to "make" His life ours. ("Remake thy will unto His will" says the prayer).

Religion must employ special words to tell its "platform": -- God, Belief, Ritual, Salvation, Destiny. There must be an attempt on the part of every individual to formulate within the broad plain of religious endeavor, what these concepts mean to an individual. Job, after emotional upheaval confronted, by a complete transvaluation of values declares that -- "out of personal experience (encounter?) I shall know God." If we are mature enough to let religion address itself to us, then God is a "reality" and a person might have experience with him.

Our lives are measured through religion, and religion without the pulsating theme of God is a picture painted with no paint; a film exposed to daylight prematurely; a silhouette shadowed with no form.

Consider this free translation of the prophet Isaiah (Chapter 44) speaking to us in somber tones as his voice carries across the generations:

Thus saith the Lord God of Israel
 I shall cause my servant Jacob to listen
 O Israel, have you not chosen me God!
 Only the One who created you -- as a divine act of creation; -- will ever give aid to you.
 Fear not the frights of day
 In choosing me -- you have chosen righteousness.
 Those who thirst for me will drink the living waters of life.
 Every soul-creature shall be blessed with the spirit of my holiness.
 I, God, encompass time as eternity until there is no end
 There can be none but I Lord God, Redeemer for man.

BBYO and THEN SOME

by Lorrie Shapiro

The two B'nai B'rith Youth Organizations have been up to their necks in projects and fund raisers lately. We are preparing for our trip to Phoenix for annual convention. The B'nai B'rith Men and Women generously donated \$500 for our transportation. Without their support, we might not have been able to get there this year.

Remember that golf game or that shopping for houses you wanted to do some Sunday? But you couldn't, because there was no one who could babysit your children? Remember? Of course you do. Well, this Sunday you can play that game of golf, or do whatever you want to because the B'nai B'rith Girls are going to babysit! Directly after the Sisterhood's Potatoe Pancake Party, BBG is going to show movies. We

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

stand in the censure of Israel by the U.N.

It seems that no matter how, or when or why, the United States, through the United Nations is determined to preserve the status quo between Israel and the Arab nations in the Middle East. These are fine sentiments on paper and there is no doubt the intentions are noble, but we all know how the road to Hell is paved. Mind, we are not venturing opinions or editorial comment at this time. We are just re-stating facts or views of others far more informed than this writer, and we add, they apparently cover every phase of the circumstances.

Shortly after the United Nations voted Israel into a sovereign nation eighteen years ago, Arab states attacked from all sides. The U.N. did not lift a finger to preserve its commitment.

Outnumbered fifty to one, the Israelis, fighting for their very existence, beat off every attack and started to take the offensive. Then the U.N. stepped in, demanding it arrange truce settlements. The young state of Israel, always eager to show full respect to the U.N., acceded, hoping for a peace that never came.

Then in 1956, over a provocation involving the Suez Canal, after Israel had captured the Sinai peninsula and Gaza Strip, land that belonged to Palestine under the original mandate, the U.N. again stepped in and forced Israel to turn the strip over to Egypt. The strip juts far into Israel and the peninsula creates a big bulge, which in the control of an enemy nation has been a source of constant trouble to the Jewish state. Israel knew it, the U.N. knew it, the U.S. and Russia knew it, but that is the geographical status of the Middle East to this day.

During the past few years, Arab terrorist groups sprung up and commenced guerrilla raids into Israel attacking civilians and causing property damage. Where did the majority of the raids emanate? They came from the Gaza Strip and the bulges in Jordan that jutted far into Israel. Here we had a condition where cutthroats stole into Israel in the dead of night, committed their horrendous acts and then slipped back across the border where they were immune to punishment.

Each time these acts of aggression were consummated, Israel protested to the United Nations, which investigated, reported, discussed, but when on occasion a vote was called for, invariably did nothing. Reason for this was that Russia always vetoed even the mildest censure measure. Consequently the Arab terrorists were convinced they were protected at the highest level.

The effrontery of the desperado bands reached the stage where they were publicly announcing every home in Israel would be turned into a grave. And they had substance to back up their boasts. Fed arms, equipment, money and everything necessary for modern conflict by Russia, even training with North Vietnamese regulars in guerrilla warfare, the Arab terrorists, more than 10,000 strong, became bolder and bolder. On Nov. 12, a mine planted by Syrians in an Israeli road, exploded killing three and wounding eight. The next day Israeli staged a reprisal raid as a warning, blowing up empty homes in a Jordanian village. This led to censure by the U.N.

The international status at this time is a bit complicated and should be explained.

Geographically, Jordan occupies the longest border with Israel, stretching practically the entire Eastern length of the country, with a substantial bulge into the Jewish state extending three quarters around the Dead Sea and within 12 miles of the Mediterranean. At the northeastern tip of Israel lies the southwestern corner of Syria, while directly north of Israel is Lebanon. At the southernmost tip of Israel on the Gulf of Agaba, south of Jordan is Saudi Arabia and south of Israel is Egypt occupying the entire border from the Gulf to the Sea in addition to the Gaza Strip extending north along the Mediterranean for about 20 miles. East of Syria lies Iraq and north of Syria and Iraq is Turkey.

Politically, Jordan, under rule of 31-year-old King Hussein, is closest aligned to the United States, with the next friendly relationship going to Saudi Arabia. The other Arab countries are dominated by Russia. So we have the Arab world split on that score, but apparently in close accord in their antipathy toward Israel.

The terrorists who plagued Israel are mainly Syrians, who entered the Jewish state through Jordan. The reprisal raid by Israel was at the point of entrance, Jordan. Before the U.N. took official action, a large group of Jordanians, dominated by Communist influence, demanded King Hussein give them arms to fight the Israelis. The king refused, and rightly so according to observers, on the theory that once armed the insurrectionists would revolt to overthrow the king. Consequently, other Arab

(Continued on Page 7)