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**Editorial**  
*A Man of Ideas*

by Nathan Ziprin

The retirement of Dr. John Slawson as executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee brings to a closing one of the most significant chapters in the history of the organization.

A dynamic personality with a wide range of knowledge in the field of human relations, Dr. Slawson has been not only instrumentable in redirecting committee policy and attitudes with respect to many basic Jewish problems but in revolutionizing its approach toward combating the ills that stem from prejudice, bigotry, discrimination and religious bias.

At the time Dr. Slawson assumed the post, the approach to the problem was still largely in the nature of frontal attack. The bigot was an enemy that must be fought, and since fighting even at its boxing best is still a hit-and-miss proposition, the blows more often than not were ineffective since they rarely landed in vulnerable places.

Dr. Slawson envisaged another course of action. Starting with the thesis that one can't fight a phantom, he embarked on what has been called scientific pursuit of the bigot and the malaise he generated. As a modern psychologist he was not alone interested in the bigot as a phenomenon but in finding the psychological determinant of discrimination. To use an oversimplification, know thy enemy before you encounter him in battle.

Since his coming to the post about twenty-five years ago, the committee under his aegis has published a number of significant studies through university and other research facilities on the problem of human relations in general and inter-faith relations in particular. Understandably the results are still not conclusive either on what makes the bigot tick or on how the ticking can be halted. In fact, there is even division of opinion whether education is an antidote to prejudice. Is it so because the dominant concept of education today is an heathen one? More and more we cease thinking of education as an end by itself. Instead of looking at education as an instrument for the development of human values, most of us tend to regard it as a mere vehicle for achieving status and security. What is most agonizing is our failure to realize that if we permit the educative process to function as it were in an ethical vacuum, its potential as a humanizing influence must either diminish or vanish altogether.

Under Dr. Slawson, the committee has lost sight neither of immediate nor longrange objectives. The immediate objective is eradication of prejudice and bigotry. The wider purpose is continued Jewish living, Jewish continuity.

Dr. Slawson and this columnist are probably miles apart on what Jewishness means. In this however we are in agreement -- if continuity is to be our path "we must discover ways of transmitting" to young Jewish America "the deep, enriching quality of Judaism, its universal value, its role as a moral and ethical force, its commitment to human compassion and social justice, its spiritual meaning and its overriding concern with bettering the human condition in the here and now."

**U.S. \$\$ for Arabs?**

By Robert Segal

Recent revelations that private foundations, apparently benefiting from the U.S. Government's Central Intelligence Agency's largesse, have helped to keep the American Friends of the Middle East in business raises anew the question of continuing hostility to the State of Israel in a variety of high places.

The activities of the paid executives of the A.F.M.E. are easy enough to explain. They ate somebody's bread and naturally danced to his tune. Thus, Rev. Garland Hopkins, who disliked Israel and had a somewhat scholarly and romantic interest in the Arab states, found it natural to pin his organizational talents to this propaganda agency. Similarly, Elmo Hutchison, who served as chairman of the Jordan-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, gladly became Near East director of the A.F.M.E. and thus got a chance to move into political action against Israel, a state he described as "fascist, intolerant, defiant, aggressive, expansionist."

But why did Americans of the stature of Rev. Edward L. R. Elson, former President Eisenhower's pastor, and Harold Minor, former U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, not only subscribe to the abrasive party line developed by the A.F.M.E., but willingly give top leadership to that body?

Did they really believe that the A.F.M.E. was, as it claimed, "an educational and cultural, non-profit, non-political organization, seeking to establish better understanding between the U.S. and the countries of the Middle East?" Could they, and others, satisfactorily explain why this rubric--"the countries of the Middle East"--unashamedly and pointedly excluded Israel? Did they not find repugnant passages such as the following in the AFME Newsletter of May 1961:

"We continue to believe that an Israel based on intransigency toward her neighbors, or financial support by the West, on the political pressures of international Zionism, and on a messianic complex including ingathering of the Jews will never find accommodation in the Middle East but will always be a threat to peace."

Would Aramco's Harold Minor still want to say, as he did in 1958, that Harry Truman, by advocating admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine, and Thomas E. Dewey, by raising that number to 200,000, had sown a seed in the Middle East, bringing the inevitable whirlwind? "An Israel supported by tremendous contributions of money and other means of international Zionism, in which force is substituted for understanding, and based on intransigence as regards UN resolutions and large-scale immigration, is in my opinion, not tenable," Mr. Minor asserted.

Would Dr. Elson repeat what he said in 1959--that it is probably more important to keep the Arabs and Israelis apart than try to bring them together in direct negotiations; also that he would like to see the map redrawn, shrinking Israel to one-third of its present size?

According to Near East Report, published bi-weekly by L. L. Kenen, the American Friends of the Middle East, founded in 1951, was receiving large amounts of money from various private foundations as far back as 1952. Grants ranging from \$2,000,000 down to \$35,000 were transmitted to this Arab propaganda agency by well-known and highly-respected foundations. More to the point, it is now indicated that some of the philanthropic groupings were serving as sluices from the American government's Central Intelligence Agency to the American Friends of the Middle East.

Is there more than coincidence in the fact that one of the brain-trusters from whom the American Friends of the Middle East has taken its cue is Kermit Roosevelt, who served with the O.S.S., a precursor of the C.I.A.? Will inquisitive, fair-minded students of history bother in the future to trace the twists and turns of Arab propagandists in this country keeping in close touch with such anti-Jewish adventurers as Gerald L. K. Smith?

In the sordid story of American Friends of the Middle East, we have the depressing reminder that well known educators and diplomats did not hesitate, in their public utterances, to twist the story of Israel's birth and of Arab violations of armistice terms. The vehicle they often used was the American Friends of the Middle East. Now we are told that an arm of the United States government itself has, through the C.I.A., provided funds for this shameless campaign of the denigration of a small, friendly nation by this same instrument of propaganda.

May those governmental leaders--the subjects of our prayers -- learn a much needed lesson from this misalliance.

**Messages To D.C.**

WESTERN UNION

TO:  
SEN. ALAN BIBLE  
SEN. HOWARD W. CANNON  
REP. WALTER S. BARING  
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF NEVADA HAS EVERY CONFIDENCE IN YOUR JUDGEMENT AND INTERGITY TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ISRAEL IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS.

JACK TELL  
LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE

**TELL TALES**

"One Man Plus The Truth  
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



*Israel Our Israel*

By the time you are reading this column, full scale war may be raging in the Middle East.

We hope not.

As this is being written we pray with all our heart and soul and with the fullest concentration of the belief in our Faith that war will not commence. It is the same prayers we asked when our father and then our mother lay on their fatally sick beds. The self-same prayers were answered for Donald, at the age of one month, and later for Bea, when all hope was forsaken by world-renowned medics. Again the prayers were answered, more recently, for our Rabbi and then Jay, as he underwent heart surgery. When our prayers received affirmative response, this writer was most grateful.

War is death, premature death, unnecessary death.

We do not subscribe to the philosophy that war is inevitable. That if it is going to come, let's get it started and over with, especially when it is favorable for our side to commence.

We believe in postponement, arbitration, debate, anything that will delay conflict. One delay may lead to another a third, a fifth, a hundredth. As long as hostilities have not started, there is always the possibility, no matter how remote, they will never commence. Who knows what miracle, man made or otherwise, might occur to alter the course, permanently?

If war does come, naturally our sentiments are for Israel, unequivocally. Again our prayers will be utilized to the fullest to shorten the conflict with a minimum of lives destroyed, and with victory for the nation of our Faith. Once engaged, we support a policy of uninterrupted, full-scale, even fierce all-out combat, to bring about a favorable conclusion.

If war is here, we harbor no doubts about the outcome. It is the price that will have to be paid, we fear most.

Maybe this is being written prematurely, and we certainly hope so, but we cannot help but reflect on the opportune moment chosen by the Arab world to commence.

Unquestionably, Russia, which is supplying the arms and other requirements, is also calling the shots as to time, and place and the methods for the Arabs.

Let there be no doubt this writer is prejudiced in favor of Israel. Are we justified in our stand?

Let us analyze the events that are bringing (brought) about this horror. For more than ten years the Arabs have been infiltrating Israel's borders in small marauding bands causing death and property destruction. Within the past two months artillery shells have been fired from Syria into Israel. This posed a problem which negated the efficiency of Israeli guards to repress Arab infiltrations. Anticipating reprisal, Egypt demanded the U.N. token force withdraw, and immediately began massing armies on Israel's border. Other Arab nations followed suit.

It is significant that U. N. Secretary General U. Thant, who bowed to Egypt's demand and withdrew the emergency force, stated for the first time that Syria was aggressor.

Here's the payoff. While shouting long and loud they will fight to a man to halt Israel aggression, every Arab dispatch states the infiltrations to kill and ravage will never cease. It is reminiscent of Hitler screaming for peace while the German armies rolled into the low lands.

It is evident to any simple student of international politics that the Arabs are acting under direct orders from the communists. That is why top envoys of democratic nations are hastning to Moscow to ask intervention. Mingled with threats by the Arabs against Israel are denunciations against American oil interests. Here is a most disturbing aspect.

Is this Russia's method of commencing World War 3?

In Korea and Viet Nam, communist forces attacked first, knowing full well the U.S. would back up the U.N. commitments and enter the conflict. The war cry in the Far East has been and is that America get out, that we are butting in to something that can be settled by the nations involved. Here in the Middle East, the tactic is different.

The Arabs are enticing the U.S. to enter the conflict even before it commences. It could be a kind of reverse psychology at which the Russians are aiming. Knowing full well the rising sentiment in the U.S. against the war in Viet Nam, the communists may feel the American public will rise in even louder protest against intervention in Israel.

It is this writer's opinion that Russia's reasoning will backfire in this case. While there are many overall principles of preserving democracy involved in all three situations, there is a vast difference between America's re-

(Continued on Page 5)

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