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Easy Politics

Senator Charles Goodell, who was appointed to his job by Governor Rockefeller after the assassination of Robert Kennedy, is running. And he is running hard. At a speech before a Jewish organization, he characterized the Russian position in the Middle East as possibly another Vietnam. If, in his search for Jewish votes in the State of New York, Goodell is trying to outdo his opponent Richard L. Ottinger, a Jew, he is doing the Jewish people and the United States a disservice.

To envision another Vietnam in the Middle East is to equate the Russians with the United States, to wish the prospect of forty or more thousand Russians killed and to see Israel in the position of the Vietcong and North Vietnam with the immense, if not the exact, losses quoted by American military sources. Within the past week or so, there has been a spate of declarations of support from American hawks for Israel. People like Congressmen Ford have come out with much rhetoric for Israel, but little *tachlis*.

It would be better for Israel if General Dayan did not have to say "now in the fourth year of the six-day war, I fear that the next round will not be held at the peace table. . . but will be held in the bunkers and the skies, with rockets, artillery and attempts at invasion." It would be better if the next round would be held "at a peace table in conference and compromises with goodwill. . ." because the next time, even should Israel win, its losses could be enormous.

Nixon's Hot Line

By ROBERTE E. SEGAL

When President Nixon made it sharply clear on television July 2, that the United States will maintain the balance of power in the Middle East, the affirmative crunch could be heard in every part of the world. A corner was turned, a Rubicon crossed, a decision of historic magnitude made.

Not long before Mr. Nixon put iron into the new American pronouncement calculated to end Russia's swinging adventures at a most sensitive political and economic nexus of the globe, George W. Ball had startled some apathetic world scene watchers with a long essay appealing for immediate American recognition of, and decisive action on, the danger presented by Russia's deep incursions for her Arab clients and herself.

Mr. Ball, who served as under Secretary of State under President Johnson and a key advisor to President Kennedy at the time of the Cuban missile crisis of 1962, spoke a vigorous warning to those who are so preoccupied with Indochina that "they sit paralyzed while the power balance shifts drastically against us" (in the Middle East). He called for grave consideration of Israel's dilemma, suggesting that the small hard-pressed nation had not signed the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and might - just possibly might - have available a desperation weapon capable of setting off "unpredictable forces."

This veteran negotiator for peace was not alone in his plea for a more forceful assurance by the United States to an Israel sweating out the costly, bloody experience of penetrating the protective umbrella the U.S.S.R. had raised over Arab nations dedicated to the destruction of Israel. Roscoe Drummond had on May 16 and again on May 20 written for The Christian Science Monitor (an influential paper much more sympathetic to Arab aspirations than Israel's survival) powerful articles accurately describing Russia's hopes. Like Mr. Ball, Roscoe Drummond asserted that American interests in the Middle East are far greater than American interests in Southeast Asia. And he went on to remind Monitor readers

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that the 76 senators, including seven "leading senatorial Vietnam doves," who were urging the sale of whatever aircraft the Israelis needed to survive, "deserve credit for what they are doing."

Mr. Drummond opined that it was not then the President who was pushing the nation into taking risks to preserve the peace; it was Congress. Joseph C. Harsch, another Monitor stalwart, meanwhile, was setting forth, with equal urgency, the obligation the United States has to back up Israel with deterrent power strong enough to hold off her tormentors, including Russia.

President Nixon seemed then to seize the lead as might be done only by one possessing a sure understanding of the terrifying nature of Russia's penetration, yet willing to risk acid criticism from Moscow, the United Arab Republic, other foes of Israel, and the residue of those who still cannot understand the consistency of an appeal for withdrawal from Indochina and a plea for putting muscle into Israel's defense.

The Nixon reaction came through authoritatively, clearly, decisively. The President urged his countrymen to think of the agony in the Middle East in terms going beyond the Israeli-Arab struggle. He drew a parallel between the current crisis and that confronting the Balkans before World War I. Given a sure comprehension of the present danger, what should U.S. policy be? "Our interest is peace and the integrity of every country in the area," the President said. "We recognize that Israel is not desirous of driving any of the other countries into the sea - the other countries do want to drive Israel into the sea. Then, once the balance of power shifts where Israel is weaker than its neighbors, there will be a war. Therefore, it is in United States interests to maintain the balance of power - and we will maintain that balance of power."

Thus were both the U.S.S.R. and President Nasser notified of this nation's determination to nudge Moscow back out of the Middle East. Hopefully, this diplomatic push won't come to military shove; hopefully, Russia will swing about now and start worrying more about China and stop toying with the destiny of Israel.

Love and Marriage

By RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

Love laughs not only at locksmiths but also at bigotry. Many non-Jews would have been strongly averse to marrying Jews years ago. But nowadays, some of the most unlikely gentiles have Jewish spouses.

And many people in the forefront of efforts to reduce intermarriage have found themselves struck by it. Remember that ultra-pietist in Israel, the leader of the Neturai Karta (was it Rabbi Blau?) who succumbed to the charms of a former non-Jewish French divorcee and not only married her, but wrote a long, halachic document to prove he was divinely ordained to do so? And in the U.S., one of the leaders of the extreme Orthodox movement had a daughter who abandoned her Jewish husband and her faith to marry a non-Jew.

During the intermarriage hassle in Israel, one deputy chided the Orthodox for their insistence that a child belongs to the mother by saying that on that basis the grandson of Krushchev (whose son married a Jew) was more kosher than the grandchild of Ben-Gurion (whose son married a non-Jew).

The battle against mixed marriage must be fought, but we reluctantly recognize that the free intermarriage of people in this country has produced a rising rate of material admixture.

Sometimes Judaism gains by these crossed unions, and sometimes we lose. In recent years a dePont was married to a non-Jewish girl by a rabbi. A Rockefeller was married to a Jewish boy at a kosher party. The grandson of Charles Evan Hughes was married by a rabbi to a Jewish woman.

The marriage of Dr. Jonas Salk to a non-Jew by the mayor of a French town would have caused pain to his Orthodox parents of blessed memory. The union of the son and namesake of the late President Roosevelt to the daughter of Paul Warburg was another wrench, but still another indication of the fact that Jewish partners are now accepted as commonplace in social echelons which once would have eschewed them.

We religionists may weep, but love laughs.

ISRAEL BRUSHES

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occupied lands.)

(American officials haven't commented on the Soviet-Egyptian agreement.) Israeli foreign Minister Abba Eban said the agreement signed in Moscow shows that Russia doesn't want peace in the Mideast. He noted that the Soviet call for Israeli withdrawal isn't part of the UN resolution passed with Russian support in November, 1967.

Mr. Eban also noted that recent French-British discussions on the Mideast had resulted in a common view between both nations that the peace mission of special UN mediator Gunnar V. Jarrings should be resumed. He said that both nations hadn't taken any concrete decisions on the Mideast beyond this one similarity of views.

Israeli Ambassador to the

U.S. Yitzhak Rabin said on an American TV interview that Israel was opposed to any temporary ceasefire but was ready to accept an unconditional ceasefire.

Mr. Eban, in a debate in the Knesset, said that Israel had on eight occasions voiced its acceptance of the UN's Mideast peace resolution. He also proposed that Egypt demonstrate its concern for peace in the region by meeting informally with Israeli representatives to lay the groundwork for "effective and realistic negotiations without which there can be no thawing of any international conflict."

Premier Meir in an interview published in a French magazine disclosed that Israel had approached Egypt at least 20 times with an offer of secret peace talks but received no response. The latest offer was made this month, she said.

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



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barometer of what will take place in the future. There will have to be some changes made in the present set-up, and they will come about, either through the natural course of what is best as determined by reasonable people, or after the conclusion of a stalemate that is not getting anyone anywhere. The only other determining factor would have to be an all-out military conflict, which will accomplish nothing more than a delay towards the eventual final settlement of peace, happiness, comfort and a combined effort promoting the progress of mankind in turning out a better world.

All this may sound idealistic and naive, but don't kid yourself. Right always wins out over might and brains comes out ahead of braun in the long run. The reason is right there every time in the history books. The man with the sword always makes that one mistake. The power-hungry conquerer is never content. He's just got to take in one more territory. That's when he meets his Waterloo. Current history is no different.

Anyone who attempts to equate the circumstances in the Mideast with happenings in other parts of the world is out of his cotton picking mind. Let us analyze a few of the other trouble spots and see just how vast are the differences.

In Southeast Asia we have an out and out attempt at Communist takeover. First came the Russian infiltrations of the Chinese in Korea and Vietnam. Then came the appeasements by the Democracies in dividing the countries so that each faction could exist in peace according to its own philosophy. This was followed by invasion and attempts to force Communism on the sectors that wished to be free. That's when the U.S. stepped in. That's where it stands today.

Previously, when the Communists took control of China, which is Red China today, the best we could offer was aid and assistance to those who fled to Formosa, where they are under a guise of Independent Republic of China. Our gunboats are protecting them against invasion and our diplomats are keeping Red China out of the United Nations, but anything they seek and desire will have to be undertaken by themselves. Time will resolve that problem.

In Cuba, Castro came down out of the hills, aided and abetted by American interests, foremost of which was the Luce publications of Time, Life and Fortune, to take over the country from corruption-loaded Batista. Castro deftly kept his intentions secret until he was secure, then announced he was Communistic.

In all three cases it was a question of persons within a country allowing the dominant force to come under the control of the Reds. There were individual problems, but they each were and are, civil wars fought by those of the same culture and nationality. There is nothing similar or comparable to what is taking place in the Mideast.

Israel is a brand new country formed by people from many lands. True, they are newcomers, surrounded by inhabitants of an area for countless centuries. But that does not make them hostile. The Jews, in their delight to have a homeland, are ambitious, industrious and progress-minded. Hardly anyone, even the Arabs, will deny the advancements in the Mideast brought about in the past 23 years by Israel. Industry, providing jobs, security and higher levels of living for all, is going on at the fastest rate in the entire world, despite being involved in conflict. What has all this to do with Russian involvement currently with the Arabs and the eventual ousting of the Reds from the Mideast?

To begin with, the wealth of the Arab nations, until recently, was brought about by the oil interests of foreign countries and wound up in the private coffers of a few Arab leaders. That is being changed, thanks to the establishment of Israel on the scene. The Farouks of yesteryear are passe. The new order of Arab leader will come from and have to answer to, the people. That's when the Russian demise will set in.

There are other factors to prolong the conflict even after the current crop of Arab leaders are dead, have fled, or have changed their tactics of stirring up the people. The unfortunate refugee problem will have to be resolved, a corridor to the sea for Jordan will somehow have to be established and all border disputes will find mutually satisfactory answers.

There is one more immensely important condition prevailing in the Mideast, which will do more to establish lasting peace than all other factors. We're talking about religion.

Try as the Arab leaders might, they can never create the illusion of a Religious War against the Jews. The Faiths are too closely entwined and neither has tradition or ambition to convert the other. Add to this the fact that the Russians do not believe in any religion, and you can see where the Communists will be when the smoke of Israeli-Arab battle clears away.

You may ask, how will Russia protect its investment of billions loaned to the Arabs for the war against Israel? The answer is they cannot and will not, ever be repaid. Russia may and did send troops into the Slavic countries behind the Iron Curtain to maintain Communism, and have armies in East Germany for the same purpose, but how welcome would Red troops be in Arab lands? Especially as conquerers? It doesn't make sense.

When the Israeli-Arab conflict is resolved and the entire Mideast pointed in the direction of development and progress, the world will be the benefactor and who knows, maybe there will be peace and prosperity for all.