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Israel-U.S. Relations

The meeting between Israel's Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and U.S. Secretary of State William P. Rogers appeared to be nothing more than an exchange of thoughts about the general situation in the Middle East. At least, that's what Dayan maintained after the 90-minute session. Rogers was not reported to have made any comments afterwards.

But some gnawing questions remain: did the Secretary of State press Dayan for any concessions? Will the U.S. be "very active" "very soon" in trying to bring about Egyptian Israeli negotiations to reopen the Suez Canal as Rogers indicated two days before Nixon was re-elected? Did Dayan come to his meeting with Rogers with an understanding from the Israeli government that it would be willing to accede to concessions should the U.S. ask for them?

These questions remain because there were straws in the wind before November 7 that the U.S. would prod Israel for compromises once the Presidential election was over. Israeli officials in Jerusalem denied that there was any diplomatic squeeze - or any hint of it - despite predictions by "political circles" in Washington to the contrary.

Several days before Dayan left Israel for U.S., top-ranking Cabinet officials debated whether Israel should continue to govern the administered territories indefinitely. There was some feeling that this debate was a signal to Washington that concessions were available.

Speculation was rife that Dayan, the first high Israeli official to meet with top-ranking U.S. Administration leaders right after the election would be bringing a "shopping list" of hoped-for military hardware and that his talks in Washington would establish the latest Administration mood toward Israel. Instead, there has been a blanket of silence.

There is an old bromide in international diplomacy to the effect that the less the participants in diplomatic discussions say publicly the more there is going on behind the scenes and below the surface. This should be borne in mind in assessing the Dayan-Rogers talk and subsequent ones involving Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Deputy Premier Yigal Allon who will be visiting Washington in the next few weeks.

Jackie Robinson

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

When you are told to fight life's battles with your arm in a sling or a leg in a cast or a "keep out" sign in your zone of mobility, you have a right to bristle. Assigned a handicap!

Jackie Robinson, breaking in with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, had one imposed on him by

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Branch Rickey. "You must have the guts not to fight back," the general manager of the Dodgers told Jackie as he turned the key in the first baseball latch ever opened to a major leaguer.

"You're telling me I've got two cheeks, Mr. Rickey," Jackie replied. "If that's it, I understand."

In capsule form that's the story of Jackie Robinson's debut with the Dodgers. For openers, it's dramatic enough. But hooked on to the years that followed, there's a recital about Jackie's struggle upward to make strong men weep, to make thoughtful citizens bow their heads a bit in shame, a great deal in sorrow and even more in respect.

There was that time the House Committee On Un-American Activities had Jackie in, presumably to give muscle to a witch hunt. The baseball player grabbed the ball and ran. He warned against confusing the activities of Communists with the injustices of life as a member of a minority group. "The fact that it is a Communist who denounces injustice in the courts, police brutality and lynching when it happens, doesn't change the truth of the charges," Jackie told the startled Red teasers. "Negroes were stirred up long before there was a Communist party, and they'll stay stirred up long after the party has disappeared, unless Jim Crow has disappeared as well."

Again, there was the time in 1954 when Jackie made a down payment on a \$47,500 home in an "all white" North Stamford district. A new neighbor, while allowing that Jackie was "a credit to his race" (whatever that means), said, in effect, that he had a large part of his own savings sunk in his own house, and he had this queasy feeling about property values. No gamble, it turned out; but Jackie's courage in sticking it out as a human guinea pig shouldn't be forgotten.

Jackie Robinson's advent in big league baseball came about the time some industrial states were struggling over proposed Fair Employment Practices legislation. Curious to recall now, Branch Rickey didn't like the idea of FEPC legislation. He expressed the fear that FEPC laws would set in motion a counter force of mass opposition to fair play. Fortunately, Mr. Rickey and thousands who shared that view, were proved wrong. Without the backing of law, discrimination against members of minority groups would still be up in the saddle and riding the deprived. Martin Luther King's wise opinion on that matter rings truer now than ever: "Perhaps morality cannot be legislated, but behavior can be regulated. Legislation cannot change the heart, but it can control the heartless."

A look at the cursed attempt by current political demagogues to give bigots a field day by whipping up passions over school busing reminds us how much anti-discrimination legislation continues needed. Playing pingpong with little children in New York while their schooling lags and their parents weep should remind us how much the Jackie Robinsons of America are needed all along the way. It is essential for us to have humane rulings by Supreme Court Justices

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

to release the \$5,000. The affidavit continues that Officer Swift had been informed by two clerks in Justice Court that Reid was about to enter the order. Logan then went to the evidence vault of the Sheriff's office and "signed out" for the money.

There is no reference in the affidavit of the money going to Ryan, as stated in the headline of Price's story: JP REID FOILED IN TRY TO AWARD RYAN "BRIBE" CASH; or in the story itself: "In my opinion, it was essential that the money not be returned to Ryan because it was evidence in the bribery case that still is pending in the courts."

The reader may recall the circumstances of the case. County Commissioner James Ryan was charged with accepting \$5,000 from Mike Mizera for voting in favor of a zoning change sought by contractor Adrian Wilson. The attorney general's office arrested Ryan and presented the case to the grand jury, which refused an indictment. A preliminary hearing before Justice Reid was dismissed for insufficient evidence.

Here are the final words of Reid's decision from the official transcript of the case in Justice of Peace court: "The motion to dismiss is granted. The funds, the five thousand dollars have been admitted into evidence. It will remain with the clerk until there is an appropriate order for its disposition. The hearing stands adjourned."

For all intents and purposes the case was done, over, finished at the moment. Reid could have deposited the money into a trust fund, but he didn't. The bills had been marked, powdered and recorded by serial number. To deposit them in a bank and comingled with other money would have destroyed their value as evidence. Instead he sent the money over to the Sheriff's evidence vault, where it was taken as a courtesy to the justice court. One clerk held the receipt and another was given custody of the key to the bank bag.

Reid's judicious sagacity was responsible for retaining the evidentiary value of the \$5,000. His instinct was correct. The attorney general subsequently filed charges in district court, where defense attorney Harry Claiborne's Writ of Prohibition brought it to the Nevada Supreme Court, in which the matter is pending.

So where does this leave Price and the Sun in the eyes of the public. We find a vicious animosity portrayed in haste to destroy and discredit a man's reputation without ascertaining the facts.

This is the same Price who hid behind the skirts of the U.S. Constitution when brought before the grand jury for investigation of a spurious story.

This is the same Price who admitted under oath he solicited money for favorable mention in his column.

This is the same Price who threatens hotel managers with involvement in a legal suit unless they cease doing business with the ISRAELITE.

This is the same Price who challenged and dared the district attorney to arrest him and when he came under investigation by the grand jury on "shakedown charges" instituted a legal technicality to delay the proceedings.

This is the same Price who never did a follow-up story on the infamous charges made in his "exclusive." Chris Crystal, another Sun reporter assigned to follow-up Price's story, told Justice Reid: "Not me, Price got himself into it, let him get himself out of it."

We'll let the courts determine the outcome. of vision; essential, too, that we have laws to shore up the rulings.

All this, and much more, we need to review as we re-examine the life account of Jackie Robinson --- grandson of a slave, reared in such poverty that diabetes plagued him from childhood on and contributed to his failure of sight near the close of his days, a champion on and off the playing field, and a valiant warrior for the right of man.