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## U.S. Mideast Policy

Israel and the American Jewish community had good reason to rejoice last week. John Scali, the U. S. Ambassador to the UN issued a warning to the Security Council not to change the wording of Resolution 242 and affirmed that the U.S. will take any necessary action to "prevent such a change." His statement had the apparent blessing of President Nixon since Scali chose the unusual vehicle of a White House press conference to issue this warning a few days before the Council was scheduled to begin its debate on the Middle

The rejoicing, however, did not last long, Two days later, reports that the U. S. was to provide Saudi Arabia with F-4 Phantom jets created shock waves in Israli government circles and the public and jolted the American Jewish community. The shock was all the more severe since there were earlier reports --that the U. S. will be selling \$500 million worth of modern weaponry and equipment to each of the oil-rich Persian Gulf states.

There is a historic irony in this two-fold The possible victory in the development: Security Council in retaining the wording of Resolution 242 may be negated in the real politics of military arms. Words cannot assure the defense of a nation when military hardware is perforating the paper on which these words are written.

A number of gnawing questions arise: Was Washington's warning to the Security Council an effort to assuage the anxieties caused by the arms sale? Were the two developments independent of each other or were they calculated to appease both sides -- Israel with words and the Arabs with deeds? Does the Washington Administration believe that words and arms are of equal value and weight on the scale of history? To put it bluntly: Was the verbal assurance by Scali and the scheduled delivery of arms to the Arab states a sign of even-handedness or of double-handedness?

The American Jewish community has a right to know the answers to these questions. The forthright stand by the Administration on Resolution 242 is a welcome gesture, but moves to strengthen Arab military power is a danger signal. Where Israel's future is at stake, no moves that threaten her security can go unchallenged.

## Samuel Sobel

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

Rabbi Samuel Sobel is slight of build, with a smile almost always brightening up his counte-

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nance and his companions.

Rabbi Sobel has known tragedy. His wife died some years ago. He has consoled many people who have suffered bereavement.

But the rabbi also knows the taste of joy and his most recent celebration is a historic yom tov for American Jewry and the U.S. in general.

For the rabbi has become the first Jewish chaplain to head up a complete corps of clergy-

The rabbi, a captain in rank, is now the "boss" of all the clergymen wearing the uniform of the U.S. Marines.

Holder of the Purple Heart, the Legion of Honor and a host of other titles and decorations, Rabbi Sobel is a credit to his people and to his nation. His book, "A Treasury of Jewish Sea Stories," is a gem. As the chaplain is unique, so is his creation. It's really the only volume that deals with the nautical note in Jewish history. And you know that there've been Jewish men of the sea, from Moses to Jonah to Uriah Levy to the Israeli

American Jewry has given our nation uniformed rabbis by the hundreds. Many of them have had outstanding careers. There is an organization, the Association of Jewish Chap-lains of the Armed Forces, which helps the rabbis to retain memories of their services to men in uniform and to promote continued acti-

The ministry of Rabbi Sobel has been especially distinguished, and the post of Chief of Chaplains of the Marine Corps is a fitting culmination of the career of one of the sweetest rabbis anyone has ever met.

The Marines'll be telling it to you for years.

## Zcumania

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

The new wave of interreligious amity, propelled by the late Pope John, has resulted in the creation of a new spate of jokes.

It is true that interfaith activities existed before Pope John, and it is also true that the bond between Christians and Jews has become weaker because of the failure of many Christians to understand the Jewish concern over the fate of the

State of Israel. But it is also true that the relations between Christians and Jews have become easier since the impetus given understanding by

gettable Pope John. The light-hearted touch has produced a paperback volume called "Ecumania", edited by erback volume called "Ecumania", edited by Hiley H. Ward, the religion editor of the Detroit Free Press and published by Association Press. The paperback tells about a bar at St. Peter's in Rome known as the Bar Mitzvah.

It tells about the rabbi who asked the minister whether he really believes all those miracles in the New Testament. Asked about those in the Jewish Bible, the rabbi replies: "Don't you know the difference between fact and fiction?

When a bride tells her spouse she's anemic, he says: "That's o.k. You go to your church and

INDESTRUCTIBLE JEWS (Continued from Page 1)

and the meaning of nothing.

Facts in themselves have no intrinsic worth other than that they happened. Meaning can come only after facts have been sifted through the human mind and clothed with value,

We feel that Jewish history especially must be viewed interpretatively because Jewish history is not a history of wars, kings, and monuments but a story of ideas that toppled empires and conquered men's minds. It is this Jewish intellectual adventure that is the leitmotif that runs not only through Jewish history, but through world history.

In the words of the French historian Ernest Renan, "For a philosophic mind -- there are not more than three histories of real interest in the past humanity -- Greek history, the history of Israel, and Roman history. These three his-tories combined, constitute what may be called the history of civilizations -- civilization being the result of the alternate collaboration of Greece, Judea, and rome." I concur with this

It is therefore than, that in my new book, "The Indestructible Jew", I have discarded the usual stereotypes of Jewish history. Instead of viewing Jewish history as the unfolding of political events manipulated by man, I view it as the unfolding of a manifest drama motivated by ideas. This drama consists of three acts, each act 2,000 years long.

The first act encompasses the first 2,000 years of Jewish history, from Abraham to Jesus. It proceeds like a Greek predestination drama, with God seemingly the Author and Director of the script.

The second act encompasses the second 2,000 years of Jewish history, from Jesus to Ben -Gurion. It unfolds like a French existentialist drama, with the Jew himself as his own script

The third act is a projection into the future--the next 2,000 years of Jewish and world history - from Ben-Gurion into the future. It will proceed like a drama of the absurd. But, before starting the action of this act, let me briefly recapitulate the thoughts behind the first two acts as a background for the third.

Our first act -- the first 2,000 years of Jewish history -- is a vast training program that prepares the Jews for survival in a coming Diaspora. It consists of a series of six scenes in which God, seemingly, hands out a script in each scene to a succession of Jewish dramatis personnae. In the first scene the script goes to Abraham to proclaim the monotheistic concept of God; in the second to Moses to give the Jews the Torah; in the third to Joshua to lead the Jews to the Promised Land; in the fourth to King Josiah to start the canonization of the Torah; in the fifth to the Prophets to make man's concept of God universal; and in the sixth and final scene of the first act, the script is handed to Ezra and Nehemiah to preserve the Jews as Jews to prevent their premature disappearance in the universalism created by the Prophets.

Having thus been fully trained, programmed, and prepared for future events, the first act comes to an end. We see Jerusalem fall, the Temple gutted, and the Jews strewn as exiles into the four corners of the world.

With this explusion into a Diaspora, the way is cleared for our second act.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

I'll go to mine."

Told that Jesus was a Jew, the Christian grandmother replies, "Yes, but God is still a Presbyterian.

The book is chockful of chuckles and contains forewords by Danny Thomas, Myron Cohen and Godfrey Cambridge.

NEW YORK -- A five-million dollar campaign for the construction of the largest synagogue complex ever to be built in Jerusalem will be launched at a dinner of The Jerusalem Great Synagogue to be held on Thursday, June 14th, in the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, it was announced by Eugene Hollander, dinner chairman.

WASHINGTON -- B'nai B'rith's Cabinet on Israel Affairs warned at its annual meeting here that Libya's transfer of French-built jet planes to Egypt might upset the Middle East

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