

Oil for Arafat hampers

By Robert E. Segal

Oil sacred and oil profane. Could the non-Jewish world possibly understand our attempt to contrast the first Hanukkah of more than 21 centuries ago with the one we now celebrate in this reference to the contrasting uses of oil?

For the oil that Judas Maccabeus conserved and preserved to keep the lamps of religious liberty aglow in defiance of Antiochus Epiphanes was, in a reasonable sense, sacred oil. Oil now used by modern Jewry's antagonists in the Middle East has become a profane economic and political weapon, especially when the power it commands is thrown on the scale alongside Yasir Arafat and his Palestine Liberation Organization. No Jew kindling the Hanukkah lights this December can possibly be unaware of the irony of this historical contrast.

With the grant of valuable status to Arafat's gang of murderers, the United Nations has debased its own reputation and saddled its questionable future with a costly mortgage. An important foreboding of more waywardness at the top of international agencies is word that the UNESCO general conference voted recently to condemn Israel for digging and excavating in a way calculated to endanger Jerusalem's monuments. For the United Nations Educa-

tional Scientific and Cultural Organization's confreres to let themselves be cowed in this way by Arab delegates and their sympathizers is incredible.

But in such directions the winds are blowing. At the same time that word leaks out of Washington that the United States may soon rebuild Saudi Arabia's military forces with several billions of dollars of helicopters, F4 Phantoms and naval equipment, Arafat chides Uncle Sam for arming Israel. Among Arafat's American backers there must be one or two who should be willing to admit that it is the heights ofchutzpah for Arafat now to pose as the wounded leader when he helped so mightily to bring on the Middle East war of 1967 by organizing and heading fedayeen raids into Israel from his base in Jordan.

The harm at Rabat where Arab leaders handed the keys of aggression to the Palestine Liberation Organization kingpin is so serious, so insidious that the millions who want peace in the world can not begin to realize how strong a blow for Middle East warfare has now been struck. If they think that Arafat and his colleagues will stop at carving a 21st Arab state out of the West Bank and any other land Israel may be hounded into yielding, they face disillusion. "The goal of our struggle is the end of Israel, and there can be no compromise," Arafat stated four years ago. Perhaps only the Israelis were listening then. We must hope now that others will delve carefully into the horrors of Palestine Liberation history.

Fortunately, some opinion makers are speaking up. "Israel need not give up one square inch of land to anyone who denies its right to exist," says The Baltimore Sun. "Let no one suppose that the free societies of the West will long survive Israel's destruction," Joseph Alsop warns.

And perhaps the most perceptive voice of all is that of the Wall Street Journal. Characterizing the Arabs' gift of chieftain to Arafat at Rabat, the Journal characterizes Arafat's coup as "the sort of victory that loses wars." Neither Israel nor the United States can be expected to let Arafat gain even this Pyrrhic victory, the Journal observes, adding that even Egypt may come to worry about the creation of a (P.L.O.) time bomb along the Jordan River.

So it is that in this latest of many, many Festivals of Lights, the Jews of the world, once more endangered by formidable adversaries, are cast in the role of the conscience of mankind, a people who, beleaguered, send out to men and women everywhere the warning signals of dangers for all honed into Arab swords.

KIRYAT HADASSAH, JERUSALEM -- The use of photo-elastic materials -- presently used by engineers for stress-analysis -- to reveal changing pressures on the sole of the foot will lead, it is hoped, to the prevention of amputation of the limbs of people who suffer from paralysis, diabetes or leprosy. This new concept has been introduced by the Orthopedic Department of the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center, Dr. Gordon Robin, Permanent Chief Physician of the Department has revealed.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Two heavily armed terrorists invaded a Moslem Circassian village north of Safed in Upper Gaililee and murdered a man and wounded his pregnant wife whom they mistakenly took for Jews.

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