

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ

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Sadat Duped U.S.

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- With the failure of the Kissinger step-by-step approach it has become crystal clear now that what your correspondent has been stating time and again in this column -- especially in the 8 November 1974 analysis entitled "Annihilation Is Aim -- Arab Spirit Unchanged Since 1948," and as recently as March 7 of this year in the column captioned "The Arab Game and Israel's Dilemma: Squeeze Is On The Israelis" -- has been proved to be correct.

All evidence now points to the fact that President Sadat, the prime mover for the break in the talks, according to Kissinger's own admission at his press conference last week, had all along been playing a Machiavellian game with the United States feigning true friendship while keeping his options open with the USSR, the PLO and the other radical Arab states, who, it now develops, acted their roles out well as per the planned scenario scripted at the Rabat conference.

Sadat thus duped Kissinger and the U.S. on his intentions for a next step settlement with Israel, a settlement he never intended to carry out.

And during this entire period of deception, the shrewd Egyptian ruler managed, thanks to both U.S. and UN aid, to get his Suez Canal cleared and amass American arms and secure Western economic aid. Moreover, in this his game of deception, he influenced Kissinger to arrange for military aid also to Syria as well as to Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Having succeeded in getting most everything he needed from the U.S. and in the assurance that he will get whatever more he needs from both France and the Soviet Union, Sadat felt he could now impose terms upon the Israelis via Kissinger that he knew they would not accept, although he did entertain a faint hope that American pressures might compel the Israelis to submit. On the other hand, failing submission, Israel, he thought, might find itself in the doghouse with the United States, its sole supporter.

And what now? Everything will revert to the questionable Geneva conference where the Kremlin -- in the role of co-chairman with the U.S.-- with its Arab friends will assuredly press for their known demands on Israel to withdraw from all the occupied area that includes the opening of the West Bank to the murderous PLO -- a blueprint which will, if implemented, transform the Jewish State into a 'sitting duck' target.

Geneva, in effect, will represent more than a "tyranny of the majority." It will be practically all against one. Even with apparent American sympathy, the Israelis, should they attend, will find themselves altogether cornered.

We stated in this column last November that the decision taken by the Arab heads of state at Rabat served to confirm one basic fact -- "that the mood and spirit of the Arabs, moderates as well as extremists, remain unchanged. Annihilation of Israel is their aim. It has been so since the Partition vote of 1947."

It is to the great credit of Premier Rabin, his Defense Minister Shimon Peres and the members of the Cabinet that, in their full understanding of what the Egyptians were up to, they were adamant in the liberal terms they offered to Egypt for a next step withdrawal -- a pledge by Sadat of non-belligerency for the return of the strategic passes and the oilfields.

The Egyptian President countered with demands via Kissinger that "added up to a virtual ultimatum that Israel surrender its most defensive positions in Sinai in return for virtually nothing," as an Israeli official put it. "This," he stated, "made a mockery of the whole objective of the step-by-step policy towards the advancement of peace between Israel and Egypt."

What Israel had hoped to receive from Sadat, if he really had good will intentions, was a simple commitment to end the state of war threat. But, as the Israeli official noted further, "he rejected the proposal without even taking the trouble to clarify its components.... The best he would offer... was a rather vague military formula about 'the non-use of force' within the framework of the

MEET DAVID HOROWITZ

BY ZELDA PILSHAW

"This is the only remaining corner of Jewishness in the entire United Nations," said David Horowitz, short, stocky, dean of Anglo-Jewish correspondents, as he ushered me into room 373 in the busy press area of the United Nations Secretariat.

"Look, Zelda," he said, extending a warm hand and sporting a "hamish" grin, "I'm known here as an internationalist, but Judaism is the core of it and they all know it."

In his corner piled high with books and papers, the walls are covered with photographs of Horowitz with dignitaries from all over the world. A shelf contains two embroidered yarmulkas, wine cups, a mezzuzah, a photo of Jerusalem and other Judaic symbols, a "Jewish niche" which makes visiting Israelis feel at home and impresses Horowitz' non-Jewish colleagues, including Chinese and Russian correspondents who frequently drop by to chat about political issues of the day.

Like Dag Hammarskjold, with whom he developed a close friendship, Mr. Horowitz is Swedish by birth. With his family -- his father served as Cantor for 14 years in Malmo, Sweden -- he came to the United States in 1914. Later, in 1927, he ventured to Palestine to become one of the first American "halluzim" in the new land, a story recounted in his autobiography, "Thirty-Three Candles."

A correspondent at the United Nations for 28 years, he syndicates a column, "Behind the Scenes at the UN," in 20 Anglo-Jewish papers in the United States, Canada, South America and Italy. He has also served as correspondent for Israel's Hayom Daily. (Ed. Note: You read him every week in the ISRAELITE, J.T.)

In 1966 he was elected president of the Foreign Press Association, by unanimous vote. ("Even the Soviets and Arabs voted for me!") In 1971 and 1972 he was elected Secretary of the United Nations Correspondents Association, consisting of 250 reporters all over the world.

In his work David Horowitz combines hard-nosed reporting of the diplomatic "war of nerves" with a firm religious belief in mosaic law.

The edicts of Moses are a blueprint for life," he says, "not only for Jews but for all of humanity." Thus, in 1943 he started the United Israel World Union and edits its publication, the United Israel Bulletin, bringing to people in Africa, Europe, Latin America and the East an understanding of Israel, universal peace and world order as outlined in the Bible.

"When the movement was founded, the Rabbis looked askance, but today they think bringing older people and non-Jews into the fold is a marvelous thing...because we are losing our youth."

Ambassadors, presidents, political figures, writers and actors from every corner of the globe -- including Eisenhower, J. Edgar Hoover, Franco, U Thant, Hammarskjold, Ben Gurion, Joan Crawford, Sammy Davis, jr. and King Hussein -- have touched base by mail with David Horowitz. He showed me his two-year correspondence with Hussein's grandfather, Abdullah, with whom he stressed the common origins of their peoples. In one letter Abdullah said, "In the light of what you have written, we shall remain friends forever."

A soldier fighting behind the scenes on many fronts -- not only the UN -- David Horowitz pulls no punches. Through his writings and influence at the United Nations, he has brought to world attention the plight of the 3 million Kurds persecuted by the Iraqi government, and the South Moluccan "Republic" within the Indonesian Archipelago who maintain a government-in-exile in Holland, while seeking to regain their sovereignty from an oppressive Indonesian continuation of the state of war....

Thus it becomes clear "that it was Egyptian intransigence, its refusal to grant anything even resembling political substance that would indicate peaceful intent, and its transparent determination to use the talks for military strategic gains that inevitably brought about the suspension of the negotiations," the Israeli spokesman declared.

Whatever may further develop, Geneva or no Geneva, of one thing this writer is certain: come what may, the United States will stand by Israel. There is not only a moral commitment here. Politically speaking, America needs Israel more than Israel needs America. The Defense Department is fully aware of this fact.

regime.

"Both groups are ardent supporters of Israel, and God knows, Zelda, we need friends," he said, "especially in Moslem countries."

In 1947 Mr. Horowitz was instrumental in deleting the word "Jew" (defined as "cunning, heretic and extortionist") from Roget's Thesaurus. Not only that, through his persistent feature stories in United Israel Bulletin and other papers, he has exposed the existence in the United States of a number of former Nazi war criminals, notably Bishop Valerian D. Trifa, slaughterer of Jews and Christians in the 1941 Bucharest rebellion. As a result, the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service is finally reactivating the Trifa case.

Recalling his early days in the world organization -- "I grew up here" -- he highlighted the partition vote at Lake Success in 1947 as its first great event.

"It was a miracle, a vote by a hairline, thanks to our two friends in Latin America, Guatemala and Uruguay. An Arab delegate said then, 'There will be a high price to pay for what you've done today; blood will flow!' and blood has flowed ever since."

Arafat's welcome at the United Nations, an attempt to turn back the clock, was one of Mr. Horowitz' greatest disappointments.

"Never, since I've been at the UN has there been discrimination by reason of race or religion. Political differences -- yes, but never finger pointing -- until now."

What about today's political realities? As for war recurring in the Middle East, Mr. Horowitz agrees with Leo Cherne who said recently, "I am going to ride against the odds on this one...Kissinger may have appeared to have emptied his bag of tricks, but never make the mistake of underestimating him...."

Meeting Kissinger at a fall diplomatic party, Mr. Horowitz greeted him with a cheery "L'Shana Tova," then asked about recent criticism of his seemingly pro-Arab stand.

"There has been a lot, but it is not correct," said Kissinger. To this Horowitz said, eliciting a wide smile from the Secretary of State, "Mr. Kissinger, I myself feel that deep within you there is still a good Jewish heart beating, that deep within you, you are thinking of the welfare of Israel."

Clearly, Mr. Horowitz has full faith in the United States government's support of Israel, and he feels this country's policy will not change no matter who is president.

In December he wrote, "Washington has come to realize that the main onslaught is directed not so much against Israel as it is against the United States itself." He points out that even if oil were not an issue, even if Israel did not exist...the power game between the Soviet Union and the United States would still be played in the Middle East.

In a recent article entitled "The Kremlin's Oil...its Jews," Horowitz accuses the Soviet Union of holding its 3 million Jews as "hostages" for trade and barter, just as the Arabs are using oil to blackmail the West into doing their bidding. This is part of the global Soviet-Arab conspiracy, economic warfare against the United States, the real threat to co-existence and détente.

He feels there is a chance for agreement with Egypt over Sinai, but is less optimistic about Syria who, he says, is moving guerrillas disguised as PLO terrorists into Lebanon. "They can't penetrate the UNDOF troops in the Golan, so that's their game now."

How about China? Is she a friend to Israel? "Not yet, but I'm hoping. Recently, I told the Chinese Ambassador, 'For the first time in UN history, the Russians have something to worry about.' He laughed and grabbed my hand."

Before riding the elevator down to the elegantly carpeted Diplomat's Lounge overlooking the East River, Mr. Horowitz introduced me to his friend, the Chinese Press Attache. Later, strolling past the press slots where news releases are posted, he told me, "The longer we can keep the conflict between the Russians and Chinese going, the better it will be for Israel."

Obviously a tough observer of this chessboard maneuvering, David Horowitz could still say in his next breath, "Basically, I feel all human beings are alike and there is good in everyone." To that he added, "Just to exist is not enough; one must live for a cause." And David Horowitz does.