

TELL TALES

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According to Avner Thomaschoff, of Information Division of World Zionist Organization, the political and economic noose around Israel's neck seems to be tightening with cracks appearing even in Israel's American bastion.

Israeli Foreign Ministry officials charge Egypt with violating secret accords of the 1974 disengagement agreement. 1) The unconditional return of bodies of Israelis killed in the Yom Kippur War; 2) the U.N. mandate extension, and 3) the transit of Israelis shipping when the Suez Canal opens June 5.

A Lebanese newspaperman reported as long as Israeli forces remain in the Gidi and Mitle Passes, within artillery range of the canal, it is logical to assume the Egyptians will open military action to push Israel from the passes.

Bertram Gold, Exec. Vice President of American Jewish Committee called upon members to be more forceful and sophisticated than ever before in countering arguments against support of Israel and in demonstrating "how the whole range of America's security requirements are advanced by a strong Israel."

Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations spoke of President Ford's television interview. "We are concerned lest the Arab governments misread and misinterpret the President's remarks as an invitation to harden their line to re-institute the oil embargo and to adopt policies that will lead to still another Arab attempt at the military destruction of Israel."

Author Elie Wiesel stated to Kissinger: "I am deeply troubled about the fate of Israel, so much so that I can hardly sleep through the night. Mr. Secretary, can you rest easy at night?"

Kissinger replied: "No, I too am not able to sleep nights."

Former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban said: "It is crucial for America and Israel to stand together because if we give the spectacle of rift and contention, the hope for peace in the Mideast will fade."

In an interview broadcast in the U.S., Egypt's President Sadat, when asked whether his country was willing to make a permanent peace with Israel, in the event an overall agreement on outstanding issues was reached, he replied: "This we must leave to the next generation to decide."

Sadat told an interviewer on April 14, "Of course, the U.S. has the ability today to influence Israel more than at any time in the past. But it is not the task of the Arabs to carry out the action which Washington defines as the "re-assessment" of its policy."

There you have the statements of all interested parties. Each gives cause for procedures to follow and options to choose.

We hope Israel's course will lead to a just peace.

Behind The Scenes At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ
A World-Union Press Feature

Mockery of Human Rights

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- In the face of a series of vicious attacks launched against Israel by the self-righteous Syrians, the Soviets, the Egyptians and their friends in a committee that dealt with human rights here last week, the Israeli Ambassador Ovadia Soffer took the occasion to remind the delegates of Syria's oppression of its Jewish citizens and the Soviet discrimination against its Jews.

"Is it inconceivable," he asked the Committee "that the world has not learned anything from the terrible lesson of the Holocaust? Only 30 years have passed since over one third of the Jewish nation was mercilessly and systematically exterminated while the rest of the world stood silent," he declared. "And yet, the very moment I am speaking to you, Jews, yes, again, Jews are gathered in ghettos, denied of every elementary and fundamental civil right and completely isolated from the outside world."

Ambassador Soffer was referring to the plight of the remaining Jews in Syria who are "the victims of humiliating persecution and oppression in every sphere of life." He also had much to say after the difficult situation in which the Soviet Jews find themselves. "It is regrettable," he said, "that after so many debates and discussions we must come before you and state that anti-Semitism, in one guise or another, is still rampant in the USSR. In the last two years," he pointed out, "one hundred full-length books of an anti-Semitic content were published under the suapices of the authorities."

Throughout the sessions of the Social Committee, the violators of human rights, as they affect the Jewish people, had the hutzpah to charge Israel exactly with what they themselves are guilty of -- and the thought immediately struck the mind of your correspondent: "auf dem ganey Brent dos hitel!" And so it is, the thief always suspects his neighbor of doing what he does.

Thus, in his right of reply, Mr. Soffer stated: "We have been subjected to the usual recriminations and repetitious slander and distortions of facts by the Syrian representative and his supporters. This," he noted, "is the common practice to divert the attention of this Committee and dodge the issue of their outrageous violations of human rights."

Ambassador Soffer then challenged the Syrian delegate to deny the restrictions Damascus has imposed upon its Jews, such as the ban on emigration; the law requiring special permits to travel further than a few miles from their homes; the carrying of a special identification card with the word 'Jew' inscribed in red diagonally, etc.

Soffer, similarly, challenged the Soviet spokesman in the Committee "to bring proof that his Government has done anything at all to ease the plight of Russian Jewry in the face of a flood of appeals from all parts of the world."

And what were their replies? Their usual professions of utter innocence of any wrongdoing amid an intensified attack against the Israelis.

In another right of reply, Ambassador Soffer stated that "it is regrettable that the Arab representatives always manage to monopolize debates and drown the issues, especially those damaging to them."

"What could better illustrate the nature of Arab propaganda," he said, "than the tears shed by the Egyptians on Archbishop Capucci, who was convicted in due process of law after he admitted smuggling arms and sabotage materials to terrorists. The sham protestations of the Egyptian reached the epitome of ridicule when he ineptly tried to defend the Archbishop, while, on the other hand, Yassir Arafat, in an interview published in the Beirut newspaper Al-Anwar, took pride in counting Capucci in his ranks."

NEW YORK -- The American Jewish Committee dedicated its Legacy and Endowment Center in special ceremonies held at the Institute of Human Relations, 165 East 56 Street.

Credo

By Rabbi Samuel Silver

One of the great rabbis of our day is retiring. Still energetic and dynamic, Dr. Hyman Judah Schachtel is leaving his pulpit at Cong. Beth Israel, Houston, to become emeritus. He will continue to preach, to teach and write books, of which he has authored several. Among his contributions to Judaism is his son, Bernard, who is a rabbi in White Plains, New York.

As he stepped down from his pulpit, Rabbi Schachtel condensed his outlook on life in a beautiful credo or spiritual coda, which follows with a salute to a great spiritual leader.

"This is the wisdom for the successful life -- to work hard, but not to expect too much; to love but not to deem it inviolable; to dream but not to rage at the rude awakening; to believe in God but not to rebel and blaspheme if our prayers are unanswered; to live on as righteous men and women but not to deny the righteous life when the inevitable sorrows overtake us; to be gazing upward, ever upward with such eager intensity that the light of our own eyes lend color and radiance to the world around us, so that we can go forward undaunted and faithful, unafraid and confident, meeting successfully whatever be-tide.

"If it be skies of sunshine, to enjoy them deeply, knowing how unusually blessed we are. And if to be skies of clouds, to find even in the clouds the rainbow of promise."

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