

When Doubts Assail

By Robert E. Segal

Those Days of Awe we now approach will serve us best if they bring new doubts to the surface, doubts to be honorable, confronted, and, in the true spirit of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, earnestly prayed over.

For who now, taking note of progress through propaganda made by Israel's foes during the year closing, can cross the threshold of the New Year confident that war will be averted in the Middle East? And if war does not strike, how does a severely maligned nation deal with the power play in the United Nations, mounted to achieve Israel's ouster from those halls, erected in comity and dedicated to the tireless, unending search for peace?

Beyond sorrowful meditation on the danger facing Israel, the wrath directed towards her by leaders of the Third World, Arab, Communist, and African blocs, we are now in the presence of doubts arising from political and economic ferment in countries torn by conflict; India, where Mrs. Ghandi's opposition is muzzled; Portugal, where a marriage between the military and rigid left is crowding out freedom-loving socialists; Uganda, where a Hitler-adoring Marshal Idi Amin undercuts international conventions and crushes critics; and Argentina where the second Mrs. Peron chases breathlessly after her government careening towards collapse. Never have so many national establishments trembled together in a given year.

We are commanded at High Holiday time to pray that tyranny will pass away, carrying its wicked trappings with it. Surely, in this dangerous era, the need for such prayers is more clearly evident than ever.

And if we lacked for other centers of hard-heartedness and oppression to pray over, we would remain obliged to raise our voices in prayer for the Jews in the Soviet Union. Shocked by the new confiscatory 30% tax the Kremlin is saddling on funds sent to individuals and troubled by Moscow's sharp resistance to American efforts to combine trade with assurance of the right of exit, we now find ourselves praying during these Days of Awe for renewal and continuity of cultural rights for Soviet Jews. If emigration is halted, must participation in the rituals of a proud heritage be crushed also?

In the course of sifting through our doubts in the holy season we turn to the domestic scene also. From academe, in the dying weeks of the Old Year, word has gone out that if the campaign for Affirmative Action doesn't do in the American Jewish community, then the mounting rate of intermarriage will. These are not related issues. We mention them simultaneously because some folks seem to have become acquainted with these developments only when our deep thinkers point them up. As to Affirmative Action -- a summons to stretch the guarantee of equality of opportunity to a breaking point -- the Jewish community of America has fought too long and too successfully ever to succumb to a new fangled quota system. As to intermarriage (one in every three American Jews now marries outside the Jewish religion), we must have confidence that the continuity of our faith, the treasures it bestows on its adherents, and the resiliency it has displayed through the ages will keep us whole, intact, undissolvable.

This old anvil -- the Jewish mystique -- has broken many hammers. It cannot be shattered. But praying over it in this season blessed by prayer is definitely in order.



TEL-AVIV (MDA) -MAYOR JOSEPH ALMOGI OF HAIFA, WAS BLOOD DONOR NUMBER ONE DURING THE MDA--MAGEN DAVID ADOM THREE DAY BLOOD RECRUITING CAMPAIGN RECENTLY HELD IN HAIFA, ISRAEL.

New Year Message

By Mrs. Sophie S. Udell
Pres. N.Y. Asso. for New Americans

For those Jewish newcomers, particularly the men, women and children now immigrating from Russia, who have arrived in the United States in time to celebrate this Rosh Hashana, the beginning of the year 5736 and the bicentennial year are symbols of the two great purposes for which they came here -- to live in freedom and to live as Jews.

We of NYANA, the New York Association for New Americans, are gratified that we have been able to welcome to New York so many thousands of migrants on behalf of the Jewish community and to help them begin their new lives. It is fitting that as the New Year begins we renew our pledge and our commitment -- to continue to welcome and serve those seeking haven and refuge here so long as we are needed.

On their behalf as well as our own, we want to convey to the American Jewish Community -- whose support of NYANA through the United Jewish Appeal (and recently the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies) has made our work possible -- their gratitude and best wishes for the coming year.

New Year Message 5736-1975

By Frank R. Lautenberg
U.J.A. Chairman

NEW YORK -- As the New Year approaches, the American Jewish community stands united in spirit with the people of Israel, and with Jews the world over. For our oppressed brothers in the Soviet Union and Syria; for the people of Israel still struggling for improved quality of life amidst mushrooming social and economic problems, we must resolve this Rosh Hashana that we will dedicate ourselves to freedom and

human dignity for all Jews.

The courage of the people of Israel makes us proud to be Jews. However, it is that very courage that must inspire the American Jewish Community to maintain its commitment in the face of awesome challenges.

There are enormous hurdles to surmount in the months ahead. We face decisive hours in Jewish history, when our solidarity with the people of Israel is essential. Together, let us meet these problems with strength and courage, and fulfill the common destiny of our people: Freedom.

None are free, until all men are free.

WE ARE ONE

AJC PRESIDENT SEES UN DANGER TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK -- In a message marking the Jewish New Year 5736, which commences Friday evening, Sept. 5, Elmer L. Winter, President of the American Jewish Committee, expressed hope for an early peace in the Middle East but saw danger to Israel and the West in the efforts to expel Israel from the United Nations.

"The State of Israel and her neighbors would appear to be closer to understanding and agreement than they have been in many years," Mr. Winter said. "We fervently pray that they may soon meet in accord, and reach an arrangement that will enable all the people of the Middle East to turn their energies to constructive actions and peaceful pursuits."

Those who seek to oust Israel from the United Nations, Mr. Winter said, not only threaten Israel but also "Western count-

ries, including our own, that had hoped to establish the United Nations as a world forum, where responsible sovereign states would together pursue the cause of world peace."

It is time, he said, that "this important international body returned to the concepts of its founders."

In his statement, Mr. Winter called attention to "the continuing harassment of our Jewish brethren in the Soviet Union," and to the plight of the Jews still living in Syria. "We are determined," he said, "to redouble our efforts to bring these inhuman acts before the court of world opinion."

Turning to domestic concerns, Mr. Winter expressed optimism that the nation would achieve economic stability and would create meaningful social programs "to return this country to the high standards it merits."

CHARGES COMMERCE DEPT. AIDING BOYCOTT

NEW YORK (WNS) The U.S. Department of Commerce has been accused by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith with "cooperating & assisting" the Arab boycott operations against Israel.

ADL national chairman Seymour Graubard in a letter of protest to Commerce Sect'y Roger Morton charged that in a letter by the Dept.'s office of Business Research and Analysis there was a statement from Iraq that firms bidding to sell 3500

pre-cast buildings to that Arab country should not use "any material manufactured in Israel or by companies boycotted officially by Iraqi Government." The ADL said it was told by the Commerce Dept. that "it is routine practice" to send out such notices.

Graubard in his letter noted that the Commerce Dept. has been warning American Companies that they must report requests for boycott compliance,

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