

JACK TELL'S NEWSPAPER

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N.Y.C. vs Arab Boycott

The warning by the City of New York to local employers that discrimination against Jews in response to the Arab boycott will not be tolerated should be emulated by cities and states across the country. New York City Human Rights Commissioner Eleanor Holmes Norton should be commended for especially pointing out that economic reasons are not an acceptable excuse for discrimination.

This position is obviously not that of the U.S. Department of Commerce which is now being sued by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith because it has refused to stop sending out boycott information with requests from Arab countries for bids from American firms. The Commerce Department apparently believes that petro-dollars are more important than protecting Americans against discrimination.

Ms. Norton issued her warning in announcing that the City Commission on Human Rights had found probable cause of discrimination in the firing of a receptionist-typist by an oil company after they found she was Jewish. A public hearing will be held on this case.

Ms. Norton pointed out that discrimination as a result of Arab pressure is a relatively new problem. She said the Human Rights Commission will not only look into firings and hirings but into company policies for recruitment and promotion including sending people abroad. She said the Commission believes that the best way to combat any form of discrimination is to prevent it from the beginning.

Since the federal government appears to be lax in enforcement of anti-discrimination laws in this case, perhaps if more city and state governments issue similar warnings business firms will think twice before buckling in to the Arab threats.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ
A World-Union Press Feature

Mann Book of Ralph Bunche

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- As the 30th session of the Assembly wound up the first week of its general debate in which the Middle East conflict is to figure prominently, a significant

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RABBI MELVIN L. LIBMAN, FORMER RABBI OF CONGREGATION BETH EL-KESER ISRAEL OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, HAS BEEN APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE RABBINICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL.

cant volume touching upon the genesis of this seemingly never-ending struggle has appeared.

Peggy Mann, author of "Golda" and numerous other important works including "The Last Escape," has resurrected the dramatic life of the man who masterminded the successful 1949 Israeli-Arab Armistice Agreements signed and sealed at Rhodes and which agreements had won him the Nobel Prize for Peace.

In "Ralph Bunche: UN Peacemaker" -- published this week by Coward, McCann & Geoghegan -- Miss Mann has given the world for the first time a detailed and intimate picture of the American black diplomat who played a central and most decisive role in the execution of some of the most important decisions taken by the world organization in Africa, the Middle East and in a score of other trouble spots around the globe.

In the light of the current Middle East dilemma and in the face of American efforts at present to bring about new agreements between Israel and the Arab states, the Bunche biography takes on special significance and delegates here at the UN may find it as a useful guide and textbook.

Indeed, a large section of the book is devoted to the almost impossible and heart-rending role Dr. Bunche played during the early hectic debates on what has since become a perennial agenda item under the heading of the "Palestine Question." In meticulous detail, Peggy Mann brings to life in masterful style all the phases and electrifying episodes of the Israeli-Arab struggle and the intrigues maneuvered by Israel's enemies including the negative and inhumane role played by the British, the stirring appeals made by the Jewish Agency leaders that finally led to the historic Partition vote of 29 November 1947 establishing a Jewish and an Arab state, followed in 1948 by the begrudging withdrawal of the British which in turn led to the concentrated Arab onslaught of 1948 resulting in the miracle of Israel's victory and the consequent Armistice Agreements.

In all these events witnessing the rise of Israel as a sovereign State in blood, sweat and tears, the black American dynamo was on the scene at every step and turn. During his visit in Palestine as the guiding spirit of the United Nations Special Commission on Palestine (UNSCOP), he met with all the parties concerned including the Jewish leaders and he even insisted that a meeting be set up in secret with the then Irgun chief Menachem Begin who, at that very time, was wanted by the British. Miss Mann recalls that "his picture hung in every post office marked with the words 'Wanted Dead or Alive.' The price on his head mounted steadily. For five years 100,000 British policemen had been unable to find him."

Yet, Bunche -- who knew only too well what it meant to be a member of an oppressed people -- insisted on a meeting with Begin and hear him out. He was determined that UNSCOP, which had been delegated by the Special Palestine session on Palestine in the spring of 1947 to investigate the situation in the troublesome land soon to be abandoned by the anti-Jewish British Administration, meet with all the Jewish and Arab leaders.

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL

(Continued from Page 1)

year old granddaughter. With old time Disney-ites, Mike and Anita to lead the way, Bea and us, holding Robyn firmly by a hand, managed to take in all the "E" attractions in Adventureland.

We wondered how could a blase guy like us, who's seen everything, sit still for a half hour watching stuffed birds talking to themselves? But we did. And that Jungle Cruise past giant elephants spouting and between enormous open-mouthed hippos, we almost yawned, but we did pull our arms away from snapping alligators too close to the boat for comfort. When we hit the ghost house, it was Robyn, holding our arm to assure us, "Grandpa, don't be afraid. They're not real."

The payoff came when we raced in Fantasyland to beat Robyn to a seat on a ride for "It's a Small World."

We sure dig Disneyland.

The meeting with Begin, Miss Mann reports, had all the elements of an underground operation. Begin was in hiding and the approach to his secret hideout had to be carried out in a sort of 'cloak-and-dagger' fashion. Only one member of the Commission, Judge Sandstrom, joined Dr. Bunche and Victor Hoo on behalf of the UN Secretariat.

The encounter, as Peggy Mann reports it, is worth noting.

Two Irgun cars were involved in the pick-up of the three UN officials in the dead of night. After several stops here and there, they came to a halt at the mouth of an alley. A girl stepped from the shadows. "Please follow," the driver said. She led them between two buildings. At the end of the alley another car was waiting; there was a driver, a burly man with a revolver, and a young woman whose face was hidden by a veil. They drove for another half hour, twisting, swerving through dark streets. Finally, they pulled up before an apartment building.

"Follow me, sirs," the girl said. They followed her up a flight of stairs. She stopped on a landing, knocked on a door, said several Hebrew words. The door opened. The girl said, "Sirs, I will fetch you at eleven thirty." They followed a young man down the hallway into a brightly lit room.

Menachem Begin was seated at a table with two other men. Bunche recognized Begin from the pictures hanging in the post office. Yet, though the man's features were familiar, Bunche felt surprise. This mild-looking, scholarly fellow was the notorious terrorist leader! Begin stood up, shook hands cordially, thanked them for coming -- They all took seats. Begin offered wine, fruit, biscuits. He spoke in English, with a European accent; spoke in the careful scholarly way of a schoolteacher. He discussed the various alternatives which the Committee might recommend as a solution to this troubled land.

Bunche himself was coming to favor partition as the best solution: Palestine to be divided into a Jewish nation and a new Arab nation. But Begin strongly spoke against partition.

Yes, Begin spoke against partition and he had his reasons which he began to explain.

"Do not forget, Gentlemen," he declared, "the Biblical land of Palestine has already been partitioned. By the British, in 1922. They had, after all, a mandate from the League of Nations to govern the country. But not to give three quarters of it away without consulting anyone. Yet, that is just what they did -- gave the land to Abdullah, who named it the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The land that was left was still called Palestine. But it is only one quarter of the original Jewish homeland. The Irgun is against a further partition of that one quarter."

"Do I understand," Sandstrom asked "that the Irgun demands all the land that is now called Palestine? This would be your new Jewish State?"

"No," said Begin. "We want out Biblical homeland; all of Palestine. The Arabs, after

(Continued on Page 5)