

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ
A World-Union Press Feature

America, Israel Like One

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- This world organization, whose original Charter drafted at the close of World War II is to be highly commended but which has developed into a biased, one-sided babel of states led by Representatives imbued with hate of all that is just and true, can well learn a lesson from precedents set by the ancient Hebrews in matters affecting righteous laws and genuine democratic principles.

And there can be no better time than now, during this Passover season coinciding with America's Bicentennial for us to bring to mind some highlights of the contributions which the Hebrew Prophets, headed by Moses, had made in the realm of true democracy.

This is especially important in the light of the fact -- overlooked by most Americans -- that the Founding Fathers had received their main

inspiration in the establishment of the American Republic from precedents of government by and for the people as set forth by the world's greatest Legislator, Moses -- the central figure in our Passover commemoration.

One of the great Americans to reveal this link between ancient Israel and the original thirteen colonies was the late Oscar S. Straus (1850-1926) who had served as Minister Plenipotentiary to Turkey under both Presidents Grover Cleveland and William McKinley. Inspired by his many years of research he incorporated his findings in a little book entitled "The Origin of Republican Form of Government," now out of print.

In his brilliant essays, Straus made it crystal clear that the Republic established by Moses constituted a perfect pattern for the form of government instituted by the Continental Congress. He pointed out that the Republic of Moses had its 1. Chief Executive in the Judge or Shop-het; 2. an elected Senate of Seventy elders, usually referred to as the Sanhedrin, and 3. an Assembly or 'Congregation' as distinct from 'all Israel.' The democratic spirit of the Mosaic Republic, he shows, was borne out by the fact that the people themselves 'selected' or 'appointed' their leaders. The Levites, however, were separated from the other tribes, thus keeping the priesthood apart from the state government.

"The Hebrew Commonwealth, unlike other republics, both ancient and modern," Mr. Straus

noted "was an original government and not constructed from the remnants of a shattered monarchy, nor did it belong to that class of governments which were originally formed from the seeds of their own dissolution." The governing power was exercised by the people, and not arrogated by the few, or retained by aristocratic families.

"The children of Israel, when they escaped from the thralldom of Pharaoh, like the people of America when they severed their allegiance from their kind," Minister Straus emphasized, "were peculiarly fortunate in having no titled classes with exclusive privileges to contend against... It may be accidental coincidence that in the history of these two people there should exist so many circumstances that bear a striking similarity to one another, that in respect to government they should have arrived at the same result, the establishment of a federal democratic republic."

In referring to the early American settlers and the Founding Fathers' close affinity to the ancient Hebrews, he reminded his readers that "the Bible was to them not only their guide in religion, but their textbook in politics. They studied the Old Testament and applied its teachings with a thoroughness and literal devotion that no people, excepting the Jews, and perhaps the Scots, had ever exemplified, for they seemed to recognize a striking similarity between their own hardships, history, and condition and those of the children of Israel under Moses and Joshua.

"They quoted its text with literal application. Their condition they characterized as 'Egyptian bondage.' James I they styled 'Pharaoh,' the ocean, whose dangers and hardships their ancestors were driven to encounter, they spoke of as the 'Red Sea.' They likened their own numbers to that of the children of Israel, 'three million souls.' America, in whose wilds they had come, was their 'Wilderness,' and in after days Washington and Adams were frequently referred to as their Moses and Joshua.

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RABIN FLATLY DENIES FORD STATEMENTS

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Premier Yitzhak Rabin flatly denied to his Cabinet that he told President Ford during his recent Washington visit that Israel does not need the \$550 million it would receive if Congress approved funds for the transitional quarter between the end of the current U.S. fiscal year June 30 and the start of the new one on October 1.

Israeli correspondents in Washington reported that Ford told Congressmen that Rabin himself had indicated that

Israel did not need the money. Rabin also denied reports that Israel had agreed to the American sale of six C-130 transport planes to Egypt.

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