

**WASHINGTON DATELINE**

BY TRUDE B. FELDMAN  
ISRAELITE's White House Correspondent

*Liz Taylor Honored*

NEW YORK -- Elizabeth Taylor, one of the world's most honored actresses, received a different kind of award at a gala supper dance at Lincoln Center here last week. For a role she played off screen, the international star was cited as "artist and humanitarian" at the 60th anniversary celebration of the American Jewish Congress.

As 500 AJCongress leaders, public officials and community figures applauded, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Simcha Dinitz, presented Miss Taylor with a leather-bound scroll that read:

"To Elizabeth Taylor, artist and humanitarian, whose commitment to the cause of human rights and to the struggle of Israel's people for dignity and peace exemplified that special quality of the human spirit from which springs the miracle of the artistic process."

Miss Taylor, wearing a black satin dress and matching turban, accepted the scroll and embraced Ambassador Dinitz as she began her response. There was a tremor in her hauntingly soft voice as she spoke of how deeply touched she was by the award, how much it meant to her, yet how little she deserved it.

"What I did was nothing," she said. "I just happen to believe in mankind and I wish more people would. It costs so little."

A tear trickled down her cheek as she completed her brief remarks and was escorted to her table by Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the Congress. The audience rose in tribute to a woman of beauty, of talent and of courage.

There was Mary Ann Krupsack, Lieutenant-Governor of New York State; ex-mayor Robert F. Wagner and his wife, the widow of Bennett Cerf; Morris Abram, former president of Brandeis University; Mrs. William Sarnoff and Louis Nizer, attorney and author.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jonas and Martin Begun were co-chairmen of the evening, which began with the season's premier performance of the American Ballet Theatre at the Metropolitan Opera House starring Mikhail Baryshnikov and Gelsey Kirkland in 'Giselle.' Liz Taylor also attended the ballet and visited Baryshnikov backstage at intermission.

Liz Taylor, who was converted to Judaism (Ed. Note: In Las Vegas) by the late Rabbi Max Nussbaum of Hollywood, California, has always been proud of her Jewish identification.

In 1973, she founded the Israeli War Victim's Fund following the Yom Kippur War, with monies obtained from an auction sale of part of her world-renowned jewelry collection.

Last year, her physical presence in Israel -- according to Ambassador Dinitz -- had meant much to his countrymen. In presenting the award to her, he noted: "They took heart when she visited the Western Wall with Richard Burton. It was an act of commitment to the Jewish cause that was not lost on Israel's people."

I learned that Ms. Taylor had cancelled another



ELIZABETH TAYLOR, SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOR AT A GALA SUPPER-DANCE IN NEW YORK MARKING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS, WAS HONORED AS "ARTIST AND HUMANITARIAN" FOR HER WORK IN FOUNDING THE ISRAELI WAR VICTIMS FUND AFTER THE YOM KIPPUR WAR, PRESENTING HER CITATION IS ISRAEL AMBASSADOR SIMCHA DINITZ. AT LEFT IS RABBI ARTHUR HERTZBERG, PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESS.

important engagement to fly here and accept the American Jewish Congress award in person. She later told me she was "deeply grateful" for having been welcomed so warmly.

"I'm really happy I came tonight," she said. "I'll always remember this occasion most fondly."

Liz Taylor also revealed that she expects to make a movie in Israel next year. "From the several film offers I'm considering," she added, "I'm particularly interested in the one which will be made in Israel."

The name of the movie? "The Ambassador."

**EBAN CALLS ARABS "SPOILED CHILDREN"**

PALM BEACH (WNS) -- Although the Arab states control 17 percent of the vote in the United Nations and 60 percent of the world's oil reserves they "are the spoiled children of contemporary politics," former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban told some 600 persons at a B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League Bicentennial of Freedom Award Dinner honoring Edgar M. Bronfman.

Eban said the root of the Mideast conflict is the Arabs' "monolithic vision" of that area in which "anything not Arab is viewed as being alien." He said the Arabs want to "eliminate Israel's Jewish personality as they sought to eliminate the Kurdish National Movement in Iraq and the Christians in Lebanon." Eban warned that "if Israel is not strong, what has happened to Christians in Lebanon in the past ten months can happen to Jews."

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The Las Vegas Jazz Society joins hands with the Cuban Club of Las Vegas to bring the "king of Latin music," Tito Puente, to the Imperial Ballroom at the Aladdin Hotel on June 27 at 3 p.m. For information 734-8556 or 736-8498.

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