

JACK TELL'S NEWSPAPER

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*For Those Who Deserve The Best*

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## We Must Face Reality

The American Jewish community has been in a state of euphoria since Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's July 19 - 20 visit to Washington. Part of this is a result of the great apprehension within the Jewish community prior to Begin's visit that there would be a major confrontation between the new Israeli Premier and President Carter.

When the two hit it off on the personal level one could almost hear a collective sigh of relief throughout the Jewish community. Begin himself did much to encourage this feeling of euphoria when he told American Jews -- as he later told Israelis -- that he and Carter agreed there was no confrontation between the U.S. and Israel, that there would be no rift between the two countries.

The one major public word of caution in this placid picture was uttered by Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, introducing Begin to a meeting of the Presidents Conference after the Washington visit. Schindler cautioned that the American Jewish community must still be ready to face "the harsh realities before us."

The harsh realities are that while the Carter Administration has shifted its tactics it has not changed its policy. The United States still believes that a peace settlement requires an Israeli withdrawal on the West Bank to the pre-Six Day War lines except for minor adjustments and the establishment of a Palestinian "entity" or "homeland" or whatever other name the Administration is giving it this week.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has completed his visit to the Middle East. If it does not succeed in moving negotiations ahead the American Jewish community must not be surprised to see the Carter Administration shifting tactics again and Administration pressure being put on Israel once more. American Jews must not allow temporary conditions -- be they good or bad -- to blind them to the realities of the situation.

## Behind The Scenes

### At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ

A World-Union Press Feature

## Geneva's Thorny Road

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) Should a Geneva Conference eventuate in October, a hope expressed by both President Carter and Menachem Begin during their recent talks, it would be tantamount to a miracle.

But the road to Switzerland remains a thorny one.

Judging by the general feeling here at the UN, especially in the light of Secretary of State Vance's latest round of talks with the leaders of the Mideast states, Geneva appears a long way off.

The main drawback to a Geneva Conference revolves around the sticky issue of the Palestinians who demand a voice in any Middle East discussion.

To overcome this dilemma, Mr. Vance's visit has brought out something new, namely, an



SPEAKING AT A BREAKFAST MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS, PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN SINGLED OUT THE LEADERS OF THE CONFERENCE SHOWN WITH HIM FOR HAVING DONE "MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE" TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AND HIS MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. L-R: RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER, PRIME MINISTER BEGIN, MRS. CHARLOTTE JACOBSON.

Interim plan calling for preliminary meetings of the Foreign Ministers of the confrontation states to be held here in New York and in Washington when the General Assembly opens in September.

Interestingly, such a by-pass of Geneva was proposed by President Sadat to Mr. Vance during their meetings last week. It is the view of your correspondent, however, that Vance himself had put this thought into the mind of the Egyptian President although the latter had noted that he had discussed the matter with President Carter when he met with him earlier this year.

That Sadat as well as Syria's Assad and King Hussein seriously desire some movement towards a settlement goes without saying. They have their own specific interests in moving forward. To them, it appears, the PLO has become a burdensome stumbling-block in the resumption of talks, especially to Sadat who, during the Vance visit, voiced no criticism whatever of Menachem Begin. When asked by the press to comment on Israel's new Prime Minister, he surprised the reporters by saying: "To be frank, there are some positive elements" to Begin's position, "but also negative elements, and we should work all of us to bring the whole thing together."

In this regard, it must be recalled that the three confrontation states, Syria, Jordan, and Egypt, have had their problems with Arafat's PLO. Assad has not forgotten PLO's murderous role in Lebanon, nor has Hussein forgiven the terrorists' attempt to overthrow him during the 1970 Black September days. Sadat also harbors sad memories of PLO assassinations in Egypt.

Their big headache has been and remains not so much the Palestinians as the overtroublesome PLO terrorists.

Ambassador Chaim Herzog, in an interview given to UN colleague Yitzchak Rabi of the JTA last week, pictured the situation as follows: "I have always felt from discussions in UN corridors that there is a very considerable degree of disenchantment on the part of the Arab delegates with the PLO. I feel that their support of the PLO in the UN is, to a great degree, lip service, and I think that they will be very hesitant to forego Geneva because of the PLO."

Herzog, retained by Mr. Begin as his UN spokesman, went on to note that "the Mideast, being what it is," has prompted "the Arabs to look for a face-saving device in order not to be placed in the position of saying no to Geneva because of the PLO."

Although anxious for a resumption of the Geneva confab, they realize that any failure there to resolve the dispute in one way or another would so greatly exacerbate the situation as to lead to another war which none of them is prepared for at this stage. The only ones who would like to see an outbreak of a new conflict are the

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## TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth  
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

went ahead anyway to justify the enormous expenditure of time, effort and money that produced nothing tangible.

The main and only government-witness was a personal enemy of Ralph's, with an ulterior motive. His accusations were flimsy. He contradicted himself under oath. It was practically mandatory for the judge to throw out the case.

The I.R.S. knew this from the start. Otherwise why was a deal evidently made with the L.A. Times on a pretense of a story about Las Vegas but actually to uncover any damaging evidence against Sheriff Lamb?

The Times assigned nine investigative reporters to Las Vegas for more than a month to probe every possible source for anything that could be dug up about Ralph Lamb. The newspapermen used every subterfuge in the business to get persons interviewed to "open up."

How do we know?

The caller asked if we could help with a story the L.A. Times was preparing on Paul Price. We begged off explaining that the legal suit we had with Paul had been settled and Paul had toned down his column considerably. We also said that Paul was not a well man and it would be best if the man was not put to any aggravation at this time. The Times reporter persisted. After all, one newspaperman helping another, etc. So we met over coffee at the Sahara.

Two of them showed up, George Reasons and Al Delugach. The questions were soft the first half hour. Then they gradually toughened. Did Paul have his hand out. Was he mixed up in any scandals? Was Price ever involved in a shakedown with Sheriff Lamb? The questions gradually eliminated Price and concentrated on Lamb. Now they were solely concerned with the background of the sheriff.

We demanded why the pretense about Price when they were really after information (only derogatory) about Lamb. Disgusted at the ploy we indignantly volunteered all we knew about the sheriff. We told of his boyhood on the farm, his being a cowboy, his advent into law enforcement, his devoted family life, his frugal living habits, his political climb, his compassion for fellowmen and his honesty.

The L.A. Timesmen were exasperated. "Why?" they asked "does everyone clam up about Sheriff Lamb? Are they afraid to talk?" We answered, "maybe there's nothing bad to say about the man!"

"Oh yeah," they answered, "if anyone says anything bad about Lamb, something unfortunate happens to that party."

They had let the cat out of the bag. I insisted they give one example of retaliation by the sheriff. They couldn't. Caught in a lie the frustrated reporters got up in a hurry and left.

A week later the cumulative "rap" story of all nine investigators appeared in the L.A. Times for five consecutive days. It was dull, unrevealing, boring and most uninteresting. It was unproductive of a single shred of evidence that could be used by the I.R.S.

The connivance between the I.R.S. and the L.A. Times for the newspaper to do the work of the government agency bore no fruit. It was a fishing expedition that did not produce a single fact. But the government agency is now obligated to the newspaper and it will be interesting to see the nature of the "pay off."

Despite all this, a couple of days later Lamb was indicted.

Is that a way to run the Internal Revenue Service? It was an extravagant waste of public funds.

We suggest that every attorney representing the government, who had a hand in this horrible mess, be fired instantly. Let them go back to chasing ambulances on their own or try to earn a living as a notary public.

They certainly do not belong on a public payroll.

You read it before in this space and our view was again confirmed. "The Lambs are good people."