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Israelis Ignored

The extent to which the Arabs and their supporters are willing to distort every forum to express hostility against Israel was again evident at a recent United Nations Conference on Desertification held in Nairobi, Kenya. When the Israeli delegate got up to read a paper on the Negev, Arab delegates walked out and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) accused the Israelis of engaging in propaganda.

Yet the Israelis, who are justly famed for having made the desert bloom, certainly had something to say at a conference that was called to prevent the creeping encroachment of the desert. In Africa this problem is causing starvation for millions. Even several western states in the United States are experiencing problems with the encroachment of the desert.

The OAU charged that the Israeli paper was an insult to the Islamic religion because it said that "After the Moslem conquest of 640 A.D., there began a rapid decline in agriculture and apart from a few hundred nomadic Bedouins, no settlement existed in this area (the Negev)." Prof. Joel Schlechter, director of the Applied Research Institute at Ben Gurion University, replied that there was no intention to malign any people in his paper. A Syrian speaker accused Israel of using the Negev to "usurp" the Palestinians and populate it "with immigrant Zionists."

But Schlechter emphasized that Israel was willing to help any other nation fight the desert. He noted that it had already given technical aid in this field to many African and other countries.

Here again is a field where Israel has much to offer to nations that need it most. Yet, instead, Israel is vilified. The Arabs talk much of peace but they demonstrate that even when it is to their advantage they refuse to demonstrate even minimum cooperation with the State of Israel.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ

A World-Union Press Feature

UN An Arab Field Day

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- Much tension and uncertainty marked the opening of the 32nd session of the General Assembly here last week as the Arabs with their host of friends, discounting some of the more vital agenda items to be debated, took their seats with only one issue feasting their minds -- how to brand Israel not only as an 'intransigent' UN member but as an 'outlaw' unworthy of membership in their 'exalted' organization.

In this their sinister scheme, it now appears, they will not encounter too much difficulty since they are assured of an Assembly majority on all items relating to the Middle East.

One of their main objectives at this session is to bear heavy pressures upon the Western states, especially the United States, to side with them against Prime Minister Menachem Begin's regime. They are backing their hope in winning them over on one particular item re-



THE HATIKVAH COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL HONORS NAPHTALI HERZ IMBER ON THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS WRITING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL. THE 1-1/2 INCH MEDAL, ISSUED BY THE JUDAIC HERITAGE SOCIETY, SHOWS THE POET'S PORTRAIT TOGETHER WITH A FACSIMILE OF HIS ORIGINAL HANDWRITTEN MANUSCRIPT FOR HATIKVAH -- THE HOPE, FOR INFORMATION, SUITE 4011, 866 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, N.Y.C. 10017.

lating to settlements on the West Bank.

Inscribed as an "urgent priority" item by President Sadat's Foreign Minister, it reads in part: "Recent illegal Israeli measures in the occupied Arab territories designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of those territories in contravention of the principles of the UN Charter..."

That many of the Western states including the U.S. will support this anti-Israeli item may be deduced from the fact that most of the leaders of those countries have already voiced their strong criticism of Jerusalem's new policy respecting settlements in Samaria and Judea. President Carter himself has on several occasions termed them 'illegal'.

The Arabs, who are looking forward to having a field day at this session, got a boost the opening day of the Assembly when the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka, A. C. Hameed, in his capacity as the outgoing President replacing the 'demoted' popular Ambassador Amerasinghe who had presided over the 31st session, took the occasion prior to the election of the new Yugoslav President Lazar Majsos to launch an attack against Israel, thus setting the tone of the whole session.

Comparing the situation in the Middle East to that of South Africa -- a favorite Arab 'pastime' -- Mr. Hameed violated the UN tradition obliging a president to be strictly objective by equating Israel's relations with the Palestinians to South Africa's "assaults on human dignity and on the human rights of the black peoples..." "The same evaluation could be applied with equal force," he stated, "to the situation in the Middle East."

He went on to say in a somewhat sarcastic tone that "the State of Israel owes its existence to the United Nations. There is no other juridical basis for its establishment apart from the partition resolution... Israel has continued to consolidate its occupation of territory seized in war in violation of a fundamental principle of international law..."

Hameed's attack brought an immediate reaction from Israel's Ambassador Chaim Herzog who termed his speech "a partisan and biased statement." Israel does not owe its existence to the United Nations," he declared in a release circulated to the press. "Israel was a sovereign state in its historic homeland thousands of years before practically all the members of the UN came into existence. Israel's prophets were expounding the principles which are being trampled under foot by the General Assembly of the UN millennia before the Organization was even conceived. The United Nations," Herzog added, "like the League of Nations preceding it merely confirmed the inalienable rights of the Jewish people to national independence in its historic homeland."

Meeting with Jewish correspondents before the opening of the Assembly, the dynamic Israeli Ambassador expressed skepticism as to

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"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



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bian royal family were in Paris at the time.

A few days after Dayan presented Israel's plan for peace to President Carter, the Israeli cabinet approved the American proposal for peace. The Arabs, as yet, have not accepted Israel's proposal, but American officials expressed satisfaction. Here's how it appears to stand at the moment.

Israel still refuses to deal with the PLO, whose covenant is the demise of the Jewish State and because of the many murders committed by PLO terrorists. In addition, Israel still insists on negotiating with individual delegations representing the various Arab states.

Israel's compromising offer accepts a unified Arab delegation, including Palestinians who are not known members of the PLO, at the opening ceremonial session. Any further participation by the Palestinians must be as part of the Jordanian delegation.

Thus the American proposal and that of the Arab states is at least partly satisfied. The Palestinians will be represented in Geneva. What will happen after the initial ceremonial gathering is anybody's guess.

But because the peace parley would be underway, it is hoped that momentum will be generated to solve the dilemmas on the spot rather than to try to iron them out now.

In any case it was Israel that made the first move, thanks to Dayan. Now it is up to the Arabs.

Incidentally, since the Soviet Union is co-chairman of the Geneva Conference with the U.S., the Russians must also approve the Israeli compromise.

It's up to them.

the outcome of what he termed "a fateful Assembly." He envisioned the new session as "another step of a downward trend of the world organization."

Referring to the fact that "half of the Assembly's time will be devoted to the Middle East" and that "both the Arabs and the U.S. have avoided the mention of the Palestinian Covenant" which calls for the elimination of Israel, Herzog said that "no one has the guts to call a spade a spade."

"That the PLO is a murderous gang is not reckoned at all. It is the Jewish State that must be put on the dock. It is Jews alone that must face the ire of the nations. The Assembly will ignore the murderous onslaughts in Uganda; blind itself to the war raging between Somalia and Ethiopia; the Moroccan - Algerian conflict, the troubles in Lebanon and the plight of the Moslem Kurds.

Yes, "no one has the guts to call a spade a spade."

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- The thousand-year-old Jewish cemetery in Taiz, Yemen's alternate capital where the great Yemenite Jewish poet Shalom Shabazi lies buried, has been desecrated and totally razed to the ground.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Premier Menachem Begin has suggested an immediate cease-fire in southern Lebanon to create a quiet atmosphere for a settlement of the Israel-Arab conflict.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Aliya from January-August, 1977, totalled 13,495 as compared to 12,716 during the first eight months of 1976, the Jewish Agency aliya department reported.

WALTHAM, Mass. (WNS) -- President Carter has appointed Ruth S. Morgenthau of Cambridge, a political scientist at Brandeis University since 1963, to be U.S. representative for the United Nations Social Development Committee.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- A new book published in the Soviet Union this summer, "Wild Wormwood," equates Zionism and Nazism, according to the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry.