

JACK TELL'S NEWSPAPER

LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE

OF NEVADA

"For Those Who Deserve The Best"

THE ONLY ENGLISH-JEWISH NEWSPAPER IN NEVADA

P.O. BOX 14096
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89114

Published every Friday in Las Vegas, Nevada
Price per copy 15c - Per year \$7 - 2 years \$12

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PUBLICATION NUMBER 305220

2nd Class Postage Paid at Las Vegas, Nevada
4167 Tara, Las Vegas, Nev. 89102
Member of World-Union Press

Member American Jewish Press Association
Member of Worldwide News Service
Now in 15th Year of Continuous Weekly Publication
Serving the Jewish Community of the State of Nevada

The Genocide Convention

This may be finally the year when the Senate ratifies the United Nations Genocide Convention. It has been shameful that ever since President Truman first recommended approval -- a recommendation endorsed by every President since then -- it has failed to get the two-thirds vote needed for ratification, although a majority of Senators have voted for it.

But now Sen. William D. Proxmire (D. Wisc.), the Senate's most determined advocate of the Convention, believes chances are better than ever in the new 96th Congress which began this month. He bases his belief on the reaction in the United States to the atrocities in Cambodia and Uganda and the effect of last year's NBC-TV series, "Holocaust" which he said had "a deep emotional response all over the country."

It would be fitting that the "Holocaust" would be the catalyst that brings Senate action since the newly-created UN adopted the Genocide Convention in reaction to the Nazi atrocities of World War II. While the Nazi attempt at wiping out the Jewish people is the most systematic case of genocide in recorded history, there have been many other examples of genocide throughout the world since the end of World War II.

The U.S. as the leading symbol of human rights in the world cannot justify its failure to approve the Convention. The argument of conservatives that it would abridge the U.S. Constitution is not valid. It's about time that the U.S. approves this treaty which reflects the very ideals which America and the Constitution represent.

Behind The Scenes At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ
A World-Union Press Feature

Political Thieves

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- Psychologically, it is hard for a thief to look upon anyone else as anything but a thief like himself.

And there are many 'thieves' here at the UN whose 'thievery' lies in their deliberate distortion of facts and malicious accusations charging Israel with acts of torture and violation of human rights, crimes of which they themselves stand guilty.

The well-known Yiddish expression which perhaps only Nobel Prize winner Singer would be able to translate properly comes to mind, namely "oifn ganef Brent dos hitl," which might be rendered "the hat is on fire on every thief."

The radical Arabs here along with Arafat's PLO observers may pose as "very intelligent, decent human beings" -- as Andrew Young put it during an interview published last week in the U.S. Association for the UN's monthly 'Interdependent.' In actuality, the PLO people, whom Young saw as "a moderating influence" within the world organization, represent a front, a facade veiling the murderous aims of the home organization composed of hijackers and slayers of innocent men, women and children.

It is indeed sad and too bad if President Carter's representative to the UN has not been



JEWISH AND AMERICAN IDEALS OF FREEDOM AND COMPASSION MERGE UNIQUELY IN THIS CARVED WOODEN MEZUZAH INSIDE THE DOOR TO THE OFFICE OF UJA EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIRMAN IRVING BERNSTEIN. ONE OF TWO SCULPTED BY ARTIST BRUCE MAGIDSOHN FROM A BEAM IN A SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, BUILDING USED BY ABRAHAM LINCOLN AS A LAW OFFICE, IT WAS PRESENTED TO BERNSTEIN BY SPRINGFIELD AUTHOR AND COMMUNAL LEADER JAMES E. MYERS.

able to see through this facade.

But the tragedy in the present unwholesome situation lies in the fact that so many of the so-called non-aligned states 'neutrals' have jumped on the anti-Israeli bandwagon and 'accepted' as 'truths' fabrications branding the Israeli 'violators' of international law and perpetrators of crimes they themselves are universally known as having committed.

Anyone familiar with the facts -- as attested to by thousands of witnesses who have visited the areas -- knows that there has never been a more benevolent 'occupation,' if such a term could be used, than that which obtains today in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. The Arab residents in the territories have never had it better -- in freedom of movement, in work, education, religion, etc.

Let us here pause for a moment -- and take note Andrew Young! Let us visualize what would have happened in 'Palestine' in 1948 and, again in 1967, had God forbid, the murderous Arabs prevailed. Mankind would have witnessed a repeat performance of the Hitlerian holocaust. Further, let us visualize a PLO entity on the West Bank, a PLO abetted by the Soviets. 'Holocaust' would once again enter the minds of all Israelis. Yet Young called these PLO people "decent human beings." These "decent human beings" here at the UN have justified the killing of school children, the blowing up of buses and the bombing of market districts.

As regards Israel's presence in the territories and the Israelis' relations with their Arab neighbors, a detailed study was recently issued by the Israeli Embassy in Washington. The 19-page brochure, entitled "Human Rights In the Administered Territories In the Light of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," represents an incontestable answer to all the malcontents here at the UN.

At the outset, the study notes that "the facts of Israel's military administration have been ignored by many international bodies which have fallen victim to partisan politics. Annually, the General Assembly recites the now-familiar litany of denunciation of Israel for alleged repressive practices and politics toward the civilian population of these areas. It is condemned for failure to comply with the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 (the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War), for failure to affirm its applicability and for failure to comply with other norms of international law."

Here indeed we have a good example of the 'political thievery' of the real 'thieves' and violators.

"These condemnatory resolutions," the study notes further, "are based on the findings and annual reports submitted by the UN Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories. The bias, prejudice, and outright malice of this Committee," the study points out, "is so readily apparent that its

TELL TALBS

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

Vegas. He left town, sick, tired and disgusted, vowing not to spend a single minute of the precious time left in his life in a courtroom against those who gained the most from him.

We hope the readers who remember the abuse heaped on Hughes will not believe it and think only of the tremendous contributions he gave to our community.

There never was and there will never be a more gracious benefactor.

We should all honor and respect his memory and be ever grateful.

continued existence in its present form is an affront to those who value the rule of law."

The Israeli Embassy pamphlet, which cites the pertinent articles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proves with facts and figures Israel's full observance of those rights and of the rights called for in the Fourth Geneva Convention.

"The record needs to be set straight," the study declares. "The very concept of human rights is debased each time accusations of their denial are levelled against Israel. Human rights lose all meaning when invoked without regard to the international standards defining them and to the factual contexts in which their observance is to be judged."

Let us repeat, the 'political thievery' of the malcontents here at the UN involves an intensive "campaign to discredit Israel's administration of the territories." It is the 'Big Lie' Hitlerian tactic. Indeed, "oifn ganef Brent dos hitl."

Bona Fide Convert

By Rabbi Samuel M. Silver

Is there such a thing as a bona fide convert to Judaism?

Are there people who have joined the Jewish faith out of genuine conviction?

One such is written up vividly in the Yiddisher Kempfer, the weekly organ of the American Labor Zionist movement.

His name is now Yochanan Arnon.

He was born Willie Arnold in Basel, Switzerland, grandson of a Lutheran minister, son of a Swiss artist.

Willie observed that in Switzerland, supposedly a liberal country, Catholics harrassed Protestants and Protestants often ridiculed Jews.

He was upset by this, but his curiosity about Judaism was whetted.

He began to study the faith, became infatuated with it and with Zionism, and was delighted to learn that he and political Zionism were both born in Basel.

Eventually he persuaded a rabbi to convert him, and he went off to Israel, where he worked on a kibbutz and soaked up Hebrew.

In Tel Aviv he fell in love with the daughter of a rabbi who originally hailed from Alexandria.

He married her and she and his new father-in-law inspired him to become a student of Hebrew literature.

Now, in his 30's, he is so knowledgeable and erudite that he has been appointed librarian of the huge Ahad Ha-am Library in Tel Aviv.

He wears a knitted yarmulke at work.

His Lutheran parents were irked by his decisions. But gradually they have become reconciled to their son's Jewishness and even have learned Hebrew in order to be able to communicate with their four Israeli grandchildren (a fifth is en route) when they visit Israel.

In his account, I. Sukar of the Kempfer, who learned the Arnon story from an article in Maariv by Chaviv Canaan, says the saga would make a great movie.

It would indeed. And how refreshing it would be to see a movie glorifying not filth, but faith!

ISRAELITE ADS PAY