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Project Renewal

The Israeli Cabinet's approval of the plan for the cooperation of the Israeli government and diaspora Jewry in implementing Project Renewal removes the last stumbling block to the start of this important program for rehabilitating 160 slum areas throughout Israel.

The start of Project Renewal has been held up by what could only be called a jurisdictional dispute, a bureaucratic fight over turf that is not uncommon at the start of new governmental programs in Israel or, for that matter, the United States. Some members of the government led by David Levy, the Absorption Minister who was recently given the added portfolio of the Housing and Construction Ministry, wanted the program to be entirely operated by the Housing Ministry with the Jewish Agency confining itself to supplying the 50 percent of the cost of the project which the United Jewish Appeal and Keren Hayesod had agreed to raise. The other half of the cost will be borne by the government.

Project Renewal does not concern just building new homes for some 45,000 poor families but also providing the social, educational and cultural conditions and services that will help move them out of poverty. This could not be left just to the Housing Ministry.

More to the point, the problem of Israel's poor, the so-called "second Israel," is Israel's most crucial problem, and diaspora Jewry should be actively involved in helping to solve it. Premier Menachem Begin and Yadin, in outlining the program to Jews in the United States and elsewhere, said they wanted not just their money, but also their experience and knowledge. As Irving Bernstein, the UJA's executive vice chairman, put it, diaspora Jewry goes not want to run the program but it wants to involve Jewish experts in housing, education, urban planning, slum renewal, and child welfare, in providing their expertise to the Israelis.

This can only benefit Israel. It will bring Jews in the United States and other diaspora countries closer to Israelis and will strengthen the ties that have already created a united world Jewry.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations.

By DAVID HOROWITZ

A World-Union Press Feature

Genocidal Threats

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- It is difficult to believe that here, in this World Organization, whose Charter binds its members "to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors," almost a score of nations aspire to see the annihilation of a fellow-Member-State; some openly proclaiming this satanic aim.

But what is more tragic is the fact that a little over three decades after the adoption by the Assembly of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the United Nations itself is being used to protect regimes accused of genocide and asked



DR. ELIEZAR OREN, HEAD OF BEN-GURION'S ARCHAEOLOGY DIVISION, EXAMINES A BEAUTIFULLY PRESERVED POTTERY JUG RECOVERED BY THE EXPEDITION THAT HE LEADS. THE TELL WAS CONTINUOUSLY INHABITED FROM ABOUT 1700 B.C. TO 500 A.D.

by some of the more powerful states such as the USSR and even France to stand by such groups as the PLO which, as the whole world knows, is committed to the destruction of the Jewish State -- a genocidal ambition.

And while this world body has thus turned away from implementing the Convention it has also almost completely forgotten the name of the Polish Jewish escapee of the Hitlerian Holocaust, the late Dr. Raphael Lemkin, who had not only inspired and initiated this Convention but also was singly instrumental in its adoption.

Although the Genocide Convention itself is referred to now and then during debates, this writer -- who had been in close touch with Dr. Lemkin throughout the hectic period of his endeavors to enlist delegations in support of his 'baby' and who often in sadness recounted his trials and tribulations to your correspondent -- has yet to hear some delegation mention the name of or give credit to the creator of this Convention.

Of course, there has been one exception, Israel. As recent as the last session of the General Assembly, in a speech on the subject of apartheid and racism, Ambassador Yehuda Z. Blum found it necessary to remind the delegation that "the direct link between the Jewish experience of racial persecution and the determination of Jews to end racial discrimination had been manifested in the UN at its very first session. After the adoption of resolution 96 (I) in 1946, declaring genocide a crime under international law, it was a Jewish lawyer, Raphael Lemkin, whose family had been wiped out in Poland during the war, who was instrumental in writing the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted by the UN on 9 December 1948 (resolution 260 (III))."

The new Israeli Ambassador then noted that "Israel was among the first States to ratify the Convention."

Attempts to destroy the Jewish people, Am Hasefer, the People of the Book, go back to antiquity, to Bible times. The Pharaoh in Moses' time tried it; so did Antiochos and other tyrants down to the days of the pogroms and finally to Hitler hailed today by Idi Amin and neo-Nazis springing up here and there in various parts of the world.

During the recent 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Genocide Convention, a significant study of the Convention was released by B'nai B'rith's UN office. Prepared by Dr. Harris Schoenberg, its Director, it noted, among other things, that while the Convention was accepted by 83 states, it had never been invoked to prevent or punish acts intended to destroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, although at least a dozen instances of mass butchery have been reported in just the last 20 years, including three in 1978 in Cambodia, Uganda and Lebanon.

The study points out that when genocide is mentioned at all these days it is within the context of politically motivated accusations against rival states -- in particular, the State of Israel which is increasingly becoming the target of fraudulent charges of genocide by Com-

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

Israel.

Ordination at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America is done in a way which is nearly indistinguishable from the granting of an academic degree in a course of study, except for a profound religious and symbolic significance.

It will be interesting to see how this turns out. Hold on to your hat - YAMULKAS.

The only thing left is for someone to come up with a name for "Woman Rabbi," certainly not Rabbnette.

munist and radical Arab spokesmen. A state like Burundi, where genocide really took place, also attacks Israel. And the Ugandan President Idi Amin cabled a justification of the extermination of the Jews to the UN, Israel, and Yasir Arafat of the PLO on September 12, 1972, just days after the Munich Olympic games massacre. "Germany," Amin wrote, "is the right place where when Hitler was the Prime Minister and supreme commander, he burnt over six million Jews."

The choices of the UN and Arafat as recipients of Amin's cable were significant, the B'nai B'rith study observes. Just two years later, Arafat -- whose El Fatah defines its purpose as not only the 'liquidation' of Israel but the 'obliteration' and 'extermination' of its Jewish society -- was to be given a hero's welcome and highest honors at the UN.

So then, at least we know where we stand. There are states with a voice here in the UN intent on Israel's destruction. And while they may muster a slim majority, it must not be forgotten that the Jewish State can still count on some friends in the Western world, members of NATO, some Latin countries and even a few in Asia and Africa. And no matter what may develop in connection with Camp David, the United States cannot escape its destined bond and link with Israel.

So let the enemies of Jewry rave and rant and threaten genocide, their fate is written, decreed. "For the Watchman of Israel doth neither slumber nor sleep."

NEW YORK -- Israel's collective agricultural communities (moshavim) have put out the call world-wide for volunteers urgently needed to harvest crops between now and April.

WASHINGTON -- The American Jewish Congress said that the nation's rising divorce rate made it "imperative" to give homemakers Social Security credit for their household work.

MONTREAL (WNS) -- Quebec's Jews were strongly urged to integrate culturally with the French speaking majority of the province.

HENNY YOUNGMAN



HENNY YOUNGMAN

...Man Of Many Talents

IS THERE ANY PARKING HERE?
NO.
WHAT ABOUT THOSE CARS.
THEY DIDN'T ASK.