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PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: SEATED - RABBI JACOB PRESSMAN OF TEMPLE BETH AM IN LOS ANGELES AND RABBI KALMAN APPEL, SPIRITUAL LEADER OF TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM, LAS VEGAS; STANDING - LEO A. WILNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GERRI CRAMER, PRESIDENT OF SISTERHOOD AND HERB KAUFMAN, PRESIDENT OF TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM.

Boat People

The plight of thousands of refugees in Southeast Asia, the "boat people," is becoming a world calamity. Many compare it to the flight of Jews from Nazi Germany in the 1930s. There are some striking parallels especially in the racist drive by Vietnam to force out the more than one million ethnic Chinese living there.

Like Nazi Germany, Vietnam has extorted large sums of money and property from the Chinese before allowing them to leave.

Just like the Jews in the 1930s, the ethnic Chinese and other South East Asian refugees find they have no place to go.

So it is not surprising that the American Jewish human relations organizations, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the American Jewish Committee and the American Jewish Congress, and other Jewish groups have taken the lead in urging President Carter and the United Nations to act on behalf of these homeless people. "As Jews who have suffered the trauma of being abandoned by the world when our brothers and sisters were being systematically put to death, we find it morally impossible to stand by idly while such destruction of human lives, all created in the sacred image of God, takes place before our eyes," is the explanation offered for the Jewish interest on this issue by the AJCongress in a telegram to Carter.

Israel, which has already accepted 200 refugees from Southeast Asia, has offered to take in 200 more. Premier Menachem Begin has urged in the UN Commission for Refugees to call a meeting that would allot havens for the refugees among the various countries on the basis of size.

President Carter, during the economic summit in Tokyo, announced that the U.S. will double its quota of Southeast Asian refugee immigrants from 7000 to 14,000 a month. But the President must increase the American share and take the leadership in urging other countries to also help these homeless people. He must especially see to it that the upcoming world meeting on the subject in Geneva does not become another session where a problem is talked about endlessly but nothing concrete happens. Jews too well remember the 1938 conference in Evian, France, where Western nations failed to agree to provide refuge for Jews from Germany.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By DAVID HOROWITZ

A World-Union Press Feature

Homeless?

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- In light of the very much ado about the Palestinians in this world organization, the unceasing harping upon so-called Israeli violations of human rights -- an issue currently magnified in the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices which is all ears to charges made by "witnesses" to "torture" -- a significant editorial has come to the attention of your correspondent. It is also timely when viewed in the light of the latest phase of the Israeli - Egyptian talks.

note of and your correspondent finds it important enough to share with the readers of this publication. Following are some of the highlights:

"President Carter was startled in Jerusalem last spring by the Israeli Minister of Agriculture's assertion that American plans for a 'Palestinian' state would inevitably founder on one simple fact -- that three - fourths of historic Palestine (Hussein's Jordan) was already, in fact, just such a 'Palestinian' state...

"But what a shock it was to read! Mr. Carter's bewilderment demonstrates, irrefutably, the spectacular success of the Arab propaganda campaign in imposing, on the highest levels of the U.S. Government (and of all Western European governments), a mythology based on a fabrication.

Mr. Carter, having been briefed by veteran functionaries throughout the fateful period leading up to the Israel - Egypt Peace Treaty, was simply ignorant of this extraordinary simple fact -- that both sides of the Jordan River (now Israel and Jordan) had been promised to the Jews in the Balfour Declaration and in the British Mandate sponsored by the League of Nations. It was precisely this internally-recognized legal document that gave modern validity to the Jewish claims anchored in the Bible.

"It is breath - taking that Mr. Carter should be unaware of the related fact that Hussein's claim to Jordan itself rests on a British strategem from the end of the First World War, when the British, vying with the French for control of the area, fobbed off Hussein's grandfather, Abdullah, with the east bank of the Jordan after the French drove Abdullah's brother, Feisal, out of Damascus and the British, having given Feisal the crown of Iraq, had to find some plum for Abdullah himself.

"Yet Mr. Carter's ignorance is indispensable if the fiction of the 'Palestinian nation' is to be a viable lever against the Israelis. It is indispensable because it is the only way to implement, in political terms, a strategy against the Israelis that can claim 'national' justification.

"It is only too obvious, whether or not Mr. Carter's advisers have informed him of it, that at no time was there ever an Arab sovereign claim that affected either the east or the west bank of the Jordan -- that the only claim to sovereignty over this particular territory of the Middle East has been raised by Jews, and by Jews alone.

"The recent remarks made by both Mr. Carter and his aides to the effect that Jerusalem, as well as the "West Bank," is occupied Arab territory, have a macabre portentousness today. They are all the more disconcerting because they contradict the official position of the United States since 1948, based on the U.S. acceptance of one element in the now totally extinct UN Partition Plan of 1947 recommending that Jerusalem be kept 'international' -- a manifest negation of the concept of 'occupied Arab territory.'

Entitled "The President's Information," and written by editor Joel Carmichael in the current issue of Midstream, it appears to confirm what the dynamic Congressman Lester L. Wolff (D, N.Y.) had told a Bnai Zion convention last month, namely, that the idea of "homeless Palestinians" is a myth.

The noted Congressman, well familiar with the workings of the UN and who is chairman of the House Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, conferred with Secretary - General Kurt Waldheim on the Indochinese crisis at a meeting held in the UN chief's 38th story office last week. Accompanying Mr. Wolff were Rep. Dan Mica (D, Fla.), Rep. Hamilton Fish, Jr. (R, N.Y.), and Rep. Ben Gilman (R, N.Y.) Mr. Wolff had requested the meeting as follow-up of the June 18 Congressional approval of his legislation calling on Waldheim to immediately convene an emergency session of the General Assembly on the crisis.

Editor Carmichael's editorial is worth taking

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TWO DRUNKS WALKING ALONG BROADWAY IN NEW YORK, ONE GOES DOWN INTO THE SUBWAY BY MISTAKE, COMES UP THE OTHER ENTRANCE AND HIS FRIEND IS WAITING FOR HIM.

THE WAITING DRUNK SAYS, "WHERE WERE YOU?"

THE OTHER ONE SAYS, "I WAS IN SOME GUY'S BASEMENT. HAS HE GOT A SET OF TRAINS!"