

## The Torch of Hope

BY SAMUEL PISAR

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following are excerpts of a speech delivered by Dr. Samuel Pisar, well-known international lawyer and survivor of Auschwitz, at the World Gathering of Holocaust Survivors in Jerusalem).

Part of each and everyone of us is here, in eternal Jerusalem, our most sacred shrine, the other part is in the cinders of the Holocaust, where we have died six million times with our brothers and sisters.

We are gathered here with heavy heart, mindful that we cannot fully rejoice in our own survival while others are dying nearby - Arabs, Christians and Jews - in a mounting sea of violence and hate.

Today, as we recall our nightmare, we must draw from its poison insights into why our world had once collapsed, how our children's world can be preserved.

This is the meaning of our pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the first, and probably the last gathering of its kind. We have a unique legacy to hand down to our fellow - men, Jews and non - Jews alike, especially to the young, because our message of blood and hope is not about the past, but about the future, a future that belongs to them.

We must help to arm them against the tragedies, the hypocrisies, the traps, the false gods of history. We must transmit the true meaning of the dangers that are thrusting mankind toward new disasters, their dreadful im-

mediacy for our people, our world, and what it takes -- the attitude of mind, the efforts of will - to understand, to adapt and to endure.

The Holocaust is not only an indelible memory of horror, it is a permanent warning. The fear, the despair, the mounting anger at the root of simmering international issues which are debated so bloodlessly and impersonally by diplomats, economists and politicians, and that endanger what remains of liberty and of peace - we feel them in our bones. We know that man is capable of the worst as he is capable of the best, of madness as of genius. We know that the unthinkable is indeed possible.

The resurgence of anti - Semitism, whether against Israel or in the Diaspora is an ominous symptom of the fever that is once again gripping the world - a world whose memory has grown dim. This is how Europe collapsed forty years ago. Those who at first did not feel directly endangered -- until it was too late -- retreated into silence and indifference, while an entire people was being put to death.

Today, when Israel sees any nuclear power plant in its region as a new gas chamber, any delivery of weapons to an adversary as a new enterprise of extermination, it displays a complex, but understandable form of psychosis about security. Jews would have to be crazy not to

be psychotic about security, given the bloodbaths that have darkened their history so recently and so often in the past.

Who would have thought that through all the holocausts of our history, large and small -- the slavery of Egypt, the Babylonian captivity, the massacre of Massada, the Spanish Inquisition, the Russian pogroms and the Nazi genocide, we would preserve our identity our unity and our faith. The torrents of blood and hope that have flooded our lives have renewed this sacred commitment to survival for centuries to come.

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### SOVIET-SYRIANS IN JOINT EFFORT

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Zipori reported that joint Soviet Union - Syrian naval maneuvers in the Mediterranean area west of Lebanon may be either a reply to joint United States-Egyptian operations held in Egypt recently or as a warning to Israel not to attack the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. Other observers said the war games may be a combination of both as well as an attempt to bolster the Syrian regime.

Zipori spoke to newsmen here before the regular meeting

of the Cabinet at which the Soviet-Syrian maneuvers were noted but not discussed according to Cabinet sources. Israeli airmen reported a "gigantic armada" of Soviet ships sailing towards the Syrian shores.

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