

HOROWITZ

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not only on the very day the Arabs here were celebrating their anti - Israeli solidarity day with the PLO - Palestinians but specifically at the time the U.S. and Israel announced their Agreement is something that can only be understood on the basis of past British perfidy during and after they usurped the Mandate. Let us look at a few highlights of the U.K. statement:

"The Member States of the European Community recall on this day their positive attitude towards the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. This attitude was restated by Lord Carrington. He reiterated that the Ten's view of the principles according to which a settlement can be devised, starting from Resolution 242, was set out in the Venice and Luxembourg Declarations of 13 June and 2 December 1980 respectively...In the Ten's view, a comprehensive settlement can only be negotiated if all the parties concerned, including the Palestinian people and the PLO, which will have to be associated with the negotiations, accept the principles which are set out in the Venice Declaration and play their full part..."

Winding up their pro - PLO 'Solidarity Day' with the Palestinians, the Arabs had the hutzpah of further violating one of the basic rules of the UN, that of displaying a non-Member flag at their hate - Israel exhibit in the Public Lobby. With this PLO flag they also displayed a map of Palestine minus any reference to Israel...At a noon - briefing the spokesman of the Secretary - General declared that no authorization had been given by the UN for the placement of the map and flag and, in the face of protests by the PLO representative, the UN ordered their removal from the Lobby. The PLO, however, won a partial 'victory' -- following a bitter dispute with UN authorities, the flag and map were moved into Trusteeship Chamber where a debate on Palestinian rights was in progress.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Carrying signs and chanting, "Long Live the PLO. Long Live Palestine," "Stop U.S. Aid to Israel," "No more Vietnam in the Middle East" and "Get U.S. Imperialism and Zionism out of the Middle East," some 200 Arabs and supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization staged a two mile march here.

THE SINAI PEACE KEEPING FORCE

Israel's objection to the participation of four West European countries -- Britain, Italy, France and The Netherlands -- in the Multinational Force and Observers to patrol Sinai after Israel's final withdrawal from the peninsula next April as part of the final stages of the Camp David accords was both appropriate and rational.

Israel was disturbed by the announcement by the four European nations that their participation was somehow linked to the 1980 Venice declaration of the European Economic Community. That declaration calls for participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Mideast peace process. Israel has stated previously that any participation by the Europeans would have to be based solely on the Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt. No more, no less.

At that point the Europeans went out and while endorsing the peacekeeping force aspect of the Camp David agreements, mentioned their commitment in their respective legislatures and publics to the Venice declaration. As a result Israel threatened to reject their participation by power of a veto vote enacted within the peace treaty agreement. Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir flew to Washington to meet with Secretary of State Alexander Haig for a 7-1/2 hour meeting to work out a compromise solution, both acceptable to the Europeans and the Israeli government.

By week's end the diplomatic shuffling behind Administration doors secured a compromise solution that the Israeli Cabinet approved. It was, however an interesting scenario of international diplomacy where each government was presenting their views for the region. Europe does not want to offend the Arab world, America wants to retain a positive position in the Middle East peace making process and Israel seeks a safe and secure area that is part of the framework of the Camp David accords with the

Egyptians.

Israel had every right to be concerned. It has been burned by peace keeping forces in the past. In 1967 UN forces left Gaza and Sharm-el Sheikh at the request of Gamal Nasser, permitting him to close off Israeli shipping from the Red Sea an act that helped instigate the Six Day War. The UNIFIL forces in south Lebanon today have permitted PLO infiltration through their lines. And Dutch troops have been accused of cooperating with the PLO while France withdrew her troops from UNIFIL after a commander was shot.

This substantiates the importance of a trusted and successfully implemented Sinai force. Israel acted properly in requiring that this be the case.

ISRAELIS ARRESTED IN RALLY

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Security forces used tear gas to disperse 200 demonstrators in Ramallah who gathered to protest the closing of Bir Zeit University. 49 Israelis were arrested, most of them Jews. The majority of those arrested were released after spending the night in jail but six remained in custody at Jerusalem police headquarters for further questioning.

The protestors were gathered in the main square of the West Bank city to protest the Military Government's shut-down of the Arab university and the recent demolition of Arab homes in Bethlehem and Beit Sahour.

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