

ISRAEL - U.S. RELATIONS SHOULD IMPROVE FOR ALL CONCERNED



WASHINGTON, D.C. -- SENATOR BILL COHEN (R-MAINE) IS PICTURED WITH ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER MOSHE ARENS. ARENS, WHO GAVE UP HIS JOB AS ISRAEL'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES TO ACCEPT THE DEFENSE POST RECENTLY VACATED BY ARJEL SHARON, MET WITH COHEN TO DISCUSS DEFENSE ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO ISRAEL AND THE U.S.

The following article was written by Senator Bill Cohen, who chaired a U.S. Congressional delegation which visited Israel. Other Senators on the trip included Senator John Heinz (R-Pennsylvania), Senator Dan Quayle (R-Indiana), and Senator Pete Wilson (R-California).

BY SENATOR BILL COHEN

Through an accident of timing, our delegation was in Israel during one of the most chaotic and politically significant periods in the nation's history. The day our delegation left Israel, the report of the commission in-

vestigating the massacre in Lebanon was released, and rumors of the report swirling around our entire visit. We had meetings with Prime Minister Begin, Defense Minister Sharon, and several other top Israeli officials, and the work of the commission was as much on their minds as it was on ours.

The meeting was part of an ongoing exchange program between members of Congress and the Israeli Knesset, who exchange visits each year to trade military and intelligence information and, in general, to solidify the strategic alliance between our two countries.

We arrived to find an Israel under siege; in addition to the domestic political turmoil, the country faced increasing violence in Lebanon, heightened tension and possibility of military activity with an arrogant Syria, and the perception of a reduction of support from the United States.

Friction between the United States and Israel is not without precedent; it may well be unavoidable with two such strong-willed democracies. But I sensed a special quality to the tension during this visit, a good deal more suspicion and lack of communication between both leaders in both countries.

We in this country must take stock and remind ourselves; we are friends with Israel, and we are strategic allies with Israel as well. I firmly believe that President Reagan and Prime Minister Begin should begin direct, ongoing communication that may help to diffuse existing tensions. Out-of-hand rejections of President Reagan's Middle East Proposals will further sow the seeds of distrust between the two countries. I met with incoming Defense Minister Moshe Arens immediately before he departed Washington for Israel, and conveyed to him the same sentiment I conveyed to Prime Minister Begin -- that the lines of communication between the two countries need to function better, or both countries will suffer.

LIVING UP TO OUR HERITAGE

A PASSOVER MESSAGE
BY SAM ROTHBERG
GENERAL CHAIRMAN
ISRAEL BONDS

Two milestones in recent history add special significance to the observance of Passover this year: (1) the 50th anniversary of Hitler's coming to power in Germany and (2) the 35th anniversary of the proclamation of the independence of the State of Israel.

These momentous events must weigh heavily in our consideration of the problems facing Israel at this time.

As matters stand now it is quite evident that the struggle for freedom celebrated at Passover is not only a phenomenon of our ancient past. It is very much alive in the present and only an incurable optimist would believe it will not be with us in the future.

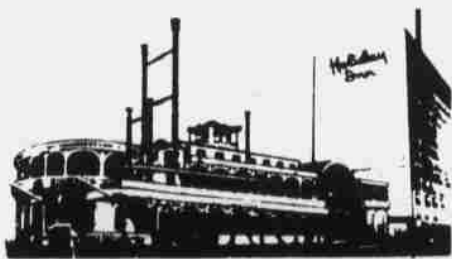
Our concern for

Israel's well-being underscores the fact that its freedom and the freedom of the Jewish people are indivisible. Consequently Passover becomes an occasion for reaffirming a sense of personal identity and obligation to preserve that freedom. The unity of American Jews in facing any threat to Israel is now being expressed as in the past in providing crucial economic strength. This vital task is performed by the Israel Bond Organization which has been a key instrument in Israel's economic development for more than thirty years. In the wake of events in Lebanon the economic frontier is a strategic factor of major importance.

The Passover Seder takes us back in time to relive the ancient exodus, to taste the bitter herbs of suffering and to savor the joy of freedom.

DAILY MINYON
Mon. Through Fri. 7:30 A.M.
Sat. 8:30 A.M. Sun. 9:00 A.M.
Congregation Shaarei Tefilla
1331 S. Maryland Parkway
384-3565 Member Of Union Orthodox Synagogues

Happy
Passover



HOLIDAY CASINO

BETWEEN THE SANDS & FLAMINGO HOTELS

May The Holiday
Bring You Love,
Contentment
And Fulfillment



CAESARS PALACE