

LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE

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The Only English-Jewish Newspaper in Nevada
 P.O. Box 14096 Las Vegas, Nevada 89114
 Published Bi-Weekly in Las Vegas, Nevada
 Price per copy 15¢ — Per year \$12 — 2 years \$20
PHONE 702/876-1255

Founder..... Jack Tell
 Editor & Publisher..... Michael Tell
 Business Manager..... Bea Tell
 Art Director..... Neil Wilson
 Layout Artist..... Cherry Bowling
 Director of Photography..... Marvin

Bill Willard, Trude Feldman,
 David Horowitz, Rabbi Samuel Silver

Member of World-Union Press
 Member of American Jewish Press Association
 Member of Worldwide News Service
 Now in the 21st Year of Continuous Publication
 Serving the Jewish Community of Nevada

Resolve The Taba Dispute Now

The Reagan Administration, frustrated during its first term in office to move the Middle East peace process forward, has apparently decided to place the region's continuing problems on the backburner. The Administration, however, ought to get involved in one crucially significant and lingering dispute between Israel and Egypt.

That dispute centers on Taba, a small strip of beachfront where Egypt's Sinai peninsula adjoins Israeli territory along the Gulf of Eilat. Israel and Egypt both lay claim to the area, each referring to varying sources to support their cause. Israel built a resort hotel at Taba and did not include the area in the land that was returned to the Egyptians with the Sinai Peninsula as provided in the Israel-Egypt peace treaty.

Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak has made the Taba dispute a focus of national attention in Cairo. He has indicated, however, that a resolution of Taba would bring an immediate thaw in the chilly relations existing between Israel and Egypt. An Egyptian Ambassador has not been in the city of Tel Aviv since one was withdrawn from the Embassy there more than two years ago.

Under the Camp David accords, disputes of this nature between Israel and Egypt provide for either party to call in the U.S. to help mediate a resolution. This is such a case for U.S. mediation. A resolution, approved by both parties, would enhance the domestic leverage of Mubarak, perhaps the needed inducement for Egypt to announce the return of its Ambassador to Israel. For Peres, an agreement would also enhance his status in Israel, as would a meeting between the two leaders after a resolution of Taba. The Reagan Administration ought to serve as the catalyst in this process, getting both parties to agree on a joint approach to the lingering problem of Taba. A thaw in Israeli-Egyptian relations is long overdue.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By David Horowitz

A World-Union Press Feature

U.S. - USSR Nuclear Showdown Looms

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) — Delegations here as well as Governments around the world are nervously focusing their attention upon Geneva this week as Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and Secretary of State George P. Shultz confer on arms limitations including the issue of nuclear parity.

This meeting between a hardened Communist and a passionate champion of Democracy brings

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to mind a Talmudic admonition. It concerns the visit of a guest in your home. It warns the host: "kavdehu ve'chashdehu," namely, "honor him but at the same time hold him under suspicion." No doubt such a situation obtained as they faced one another.

The outcome of the talks may well determine whether or not President Reagan's prognosis in 1980 and referred to again last year, namely, "We may be in the generation that sees Armageddon" -- the climatic global struggle between the forces of darkness and those of light -- may be prophetically correct.

Indeed, there can be no doubt deep mistrust and suspicion continue to bedevil both sides. Politics are played in deceit and subterfuge has become the norm in the game of dictators and totalitarians. In some cases the West is not immune. Guilt often plagues both sides.

In a recent column relating to the peril which this nuclear age poses to all mankind and in connection with Mr. Reagan's Armageddon warning, your correspondent noted that "in the light of the critical and perplexing situation in which the world finds itself today -- as mirrored here at the UN -- the writer is of the opinion that humanity has reached a decisive and climatic period in history and that there's still a score to be settled not only over the murder of the six million children of Jacob within a Christian dispensation but also over the butcheries of the Crusaders and the leaders of the Inquisitions."

And he added: "There's a hell yet to be paid. The blood of the victims crieth out from the earth." There's a final judgment!

Those dictatorial nations in the totalitarian and Islamic worlds do not realize what they are getting into by their unceasing onslaughts against the People of the Book, belittling, besmirching and threatening them. It seems that, moved as it were by an unseen dark force, they themselves, like the ancient Pharaohs, Antiochuses, Hamans and Apions, are forcing hasty fulfillment of those prophecies decreeing their doom.

"Come and let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel be no more remembered," Psalm 83 cites these enemies as threatening modern Israel -- a threat made annually in every UN General Assembly by those very states mentioned in that Psalm. But, Isaiah, in Chapter 8 warns that though "they take crafty counsel together and gird themselves with strength," their counsel shall "be brought to naught" and they "shall be broken in pieces."

Ezekiel, in Chapters 38-39, speaks about a totalitarian super-power termed "Gog of the Land of Magog" ruling over the provinces of "Rosh, Meshech and Tubal" and among whose allies will be "Persia, Put, Cush" with a large assembly of satellites, who will come "from the farthest north...against the mountains of Israel" where Gog and company will face their doom. Ezekiel describes it thus:

King of One Liners



HENNY YOUNGMAN

...Man of Many Talents.

I just had a wonderful dream.
 I dreamt the Joneses were trying to keep up with me!

"Behold, on the day when My people dwell in safety, thou, Gog, shall know, at the end of days shalt thou be...And in the fury of My wrath have I spoken, Surely on that day there shall be a great earthquake in the Land of Israel...and I will hold judgment over him with pestilence and with blood, and they shall know that I am YHVH..."

A similar earthquake is prophesied in Zechariah, Chapter 14. He speaks of the same final Gog conflict without mentioning the term Gog. The chapter opens with a depiction of many "nations coming against Jerusalem to battle" where they will become paralyzed by the quake and a unique plague, the affect of which Zechariah describes as follows: "Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their sockets, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth..."

That this may be the result of a nuclear blast is not to be discounted. Verses 6-7 of this same chapter speaks of another reaction which appear to fit in with warnings issued by nuclear scientists (6-7): "And it shall come to pass on that day that there shall be no light, (but) heavy frigidty and freezing. And there shall be one day...neither day nor night, but it shall come to pass that at evening time there shall be light..."

Isaiah, in Chapter 24, gives us this scenario: "...The world faileth and fadeth away...The earth is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, violated the statute, broken the Everlasting Covenant, therefore the curse devoureth the earth...(Verses 4-6).

The future hope: "...WHOSOEVER shall call on the name YHVH shall escape." (Joel 3:5).

Gilman Condemns Shcharansky Imprisonment

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Benjamin A. Gilman (New York -- 22nd District) stated that "Congress and the President must absolutely make Anatoly Shcharansky's well being and his freedom a number one human rights priority."

Congressman Gilman's remarks were made at a Capitol Hill press conference, hosted by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, focusing the attention of Congress on the continued imprisonment of the Soviet Jewish dissident.

The press conference was attended by Mrs. Avital Shcharansky, who noted that her husband's current whereabouts and physical condition are unknown.

"Today's press conference is called at the onset of the New Year," said Gilman. "It has become apparent that with this New Year and our new Congress, we will have to re-assess our strategy for saving Soviet Jewry. In the past, the term 'Jews of silence' meant muffling their cries."

"Unfortunately, of late," Rep. Gilman continued, "Soviet Anti-Semitism has grown in such proportions that these Jews of silence are now risking their lives by having their pleas for freedom published in yesterday's 'Wall Street Journal,' which could lead to even more serious repercussions. Anatoly's disappearance and this new approach on the part of the Jews across the Soviet Union forebodes ill for 1985."

Rep. Gilman also stated that: "Although those of us in the United States may be particularly thankful that 1984 -- George Orwell's year of Big Brother -- has come and gone with our personal freedoms in this country intact, the grim implications of that novel continue to manifest themselves in the Soviet Union."

The press conference was attended by a number of both the House and Senate.

Anatoly Shcharansky, who turned 37 on January 20th, has been imprisoned since March 15, 1977. He was sentenced to 13 years of imprisonment and hard labor on the false charge of being an agent for the United States, and it is widely believed that his stated desire to emigrate to Israel played a role in the harsh sentence.

Emigration of Jews out of the Soviet Union has steadily dropped from a high of 51,320 in 1979 to just 896 for all of 1984.