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What Bodes For Soviet Jewry

The reigns of power inside the Soviet Union switched this week, for the fourth time in the past three years. Mikhail Gorbachev was elected to succeed Constantin Chernenko who died recently from heart and liver failure. He presided over the secret bureaucracy for merely 13 months, most of the time in ill health. If for nothing else, he will be remembered as being in power when Soviet Jewish emigration dipped drastically, and repression and harassment of Soviet Jews increased dramatically.

With this in mind, Jewish officials here and abroad were anxiously seeking to detect any "gesture" or "signal" which would indicate a changing of the hardened line of the Soviets toward its many Jewish citizens. Many officials were cautious but pleased by indications in the media that Gorbachev will be seeking economic reforms and technological improvements, all of which could lead to negotiations with the West. These negotiations could provide the West with the needed leverage for using human rights as a bargaining chip. But that remains purely speculative.

Others, offering a differing scenario, see Gorbachev as needing time, perhaps several months, perhaps a year or more, in order to consolidate his power base before initiating human rights reforms. He may present simply a softened, polished veneer for an increasingly hardened policy on Soviet Jews and human rights issues. But if Gorbachev truly represents what is being called a new wave of leadership in the Soviet Union, he will make a gesture, send a signal and seize this opportunity to ease the suffering of an ancient people.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By David Horowitz

A World-Union Press Feature

Lebanese Terror, Hypocrisy, Cowardice

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) — There seems to be no end to Lebanese hutzpah. Cowardice would be a more fitting term.

Gemayal's chickenheartedness as linked to his regime's subservience to Damascus was bared to the world during the recent Security Council session here at which Beirut's Ambassador Rashid Fakhoury erupted into a tantrum accusing Israel of all the troubles that have befallen his fragmented country. He demanded that the Council, which he had invoked, adopt a "resolution calling on Israel...immediately to put an end to its inhuman military operations and practices." Empty words.

Interestingly, the Egyptian Council delegate Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim Shaker, in an obvious attempt to curry the favor of the Arab world, just could not restrain himself from making a speech

in full support of the Lebanese spokesman.

But it never fails. Whenever Israel is attacked -- in this case, by the Shiites in south Lebanon resulting in the killing and wounding of Israelis immediately after the Israeli Defense Forces began the first of the three stages of their scheduled withdrawal -- something had to be concocted to make Jewish soldiers look bad. First, sinister elements which would like to see Israel annihilated circulated reports that a sacred Koran had been defamed. Next, the news carried stories that a mosque had been bombed in the Shiite village of Marakah, eight miles east of Tyre. Anything to incite hatred.

Before any investigation was made to ascertain the cause of the blast, Lebanon's religious Shiite leader lost no time in calling for a jihad, a holy war, against the Israelis. Prime Minister Rashid Karami was also hasty in blaming the Israelis and the recalcitrant Nabib Berri, Shiite chief in the south, had the gall to charge that Israel had "booby-trapped" the upper story of the mosque. The charges brought to mind the Sabra and Shatilah camps. The Lebanese leaders immediately blamed the Israelis for the so-called massacre perpetrated by the Phalangists.

Yasir Arafat, too, far off in Tunis, catapulted himself into the picture. During an interview he is quoted as having stated that Palestinians -- meaning, of course, his own PLO Fatah -- had participated in the Shiite raids, surely up to some mischief.

But all the fabricated argumentation which Beirut's Fakhoury had forced upon the Security Council members fell by the wayside when Israel's eloquent Ambassador Netanyahu began to deliver his fiery verbal missile which struck the Council chamber like a thunderbolt.

"There are certain basic assumptions about sovereign rights, or rather, there are certain basic assumptions sovereign states accept and expect from one another," he commenced to tell the fifteen Council members: "They expect them to keep law and order within their borders; they expect them to keep agreements they signed, regardless of outside pressure; they expect them to prevent the use of their territory as a terrorist base against other States..." No one in the Council failed to grasp what he meant here.

"But," Netanyahu continued in strong, unmistakable tones, "since the early 1970s Lebanon has not prevented its citizens from slaughtering one another; nor has it resisted Syria's occupation of most of the country and its dictates to Beirut to abrogate Lebanon's solemn international commitments; nor has it prevented the PLO from occupying the south and launching terrorist attacks against Israel from Lebanese territory.

"It was this last Lebanese failure," he emphasized, "that led Israel to act in 1982. We did what Lebanon, had it asserted its sovereignty,

King of One Liners

HENNY YOUNGMAN

...Man of Many Talents.

A jury was out for seventy-two hours. When they came back into the courtroom, the judge said, "Have you come to a decision?" "Yes, your honor," replied the foreman. "We decided not to become involved."

should have done in the first place: we struck at the PLO's terrorist bases in the south from which terrorist attacks were launched not only against us but also against many countries represented here; we then tried to reach an understanding with Lebanon...Such an understanding was reached in fact in the May 17 agreement; it was approved overwhelmingly by the parliaments of both Lebanon and Israel. But as the Syrian army lobbed shells into Beirut the Lebanese Government caved in and broke the agreement. From that day on all Lebanese actions, including today's exercise, would be carried out only with the approval of Syria."

Ambassador Netanyahu went on to remind the Council that, despite Israel's urgings, Lebanon had refused to accept a proposal by Jerusalem for an orderly transfer of authority, including the use of UN forces, throughout the process of Israel's three-stage withdrawal "as a way of minimizing violence in the evacuated area..." But, as Netanyahu stated, "Lebanon could not act without Syria's approval... It appears then that the fate of most of the country -- which is controlled directly or indirectly by Syria -- is of no concern to the Lebanese Government and, curiously, it is only when Israel is involved that a sudden concern is voiced by Beirut..."

"Israel is not entering Lebanon," Netanyahu stressed. "It is exiting from Lebanon; and it is precisely after this withdrawal was well under way that an accelerated and fanatic campaign of terror was put into motion..."

"Rather than focusing on Israel's actions to prevent terrorism," Netanyahu concluded reprimandingly, "the Council would do better to seek ways to curb the terror that still plagues Lebanon" -- an accessory to violence and terror.

TEL AVIV (WNS) — The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra has left for a three-weeks concert tour in the U.S. and Canada, during which it will play 16 concerts under the baton of Zubin Mehta. Soloists playing with the IPO in the U.S. will be Yefim Bronfman, Yehudit Lieber, Uri Plianka and Itzhak Perlman. In Canada the soloists will be 15-year-old violinists Shira Rabin and Roni Shiloh.

NEW YORK (WNS) — Inna Bruckchuun, virtually the only Soviet Jewish activist to have received an exit visa in recent months, arrived in Vienna according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. She arrived with her husband Dimitry Khazkin. Both were unofficial teachers of Judaism in Moscow.

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

(Continued from page 1)

image of the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, he has devoted countless hours of his personal time to supporting and encouraging worthy charitable causes in Southern Nevada; and

WHEREAS, he is being honored by the American Jewish Committee as the recipient of the 1985 Institute of Human Relations Award; and

WHEREAS, the American Jewish Committee was founded in 1906; and

WHEREAS, the American Jewish Committee founded in the aftermath of the pogroms in Russia, believes that the denial of equal justice and opportunity for one religious, ethnic or racial group threatens us all; and

WHEREAS, in becoming this year's recipient, Sheriff Moran joins a long list of distinguished honorees including President Dwight D. Eisenhower;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD H. BRYAN, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim Sunday, March 10, 1985, in NEVADA as SHERIFF JOHN MORAN DAY.