

Tisha B' Av -- A Sobering Reminder

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world but is on the increase; in the case of the U.S. it has made a track record and continues to burgeon to frightening proportions.

Remotely as it may seem, these disheartening facts cannot entirely be dissociated from what has transpired on Tisha B'Av 1900 years ago. By the same token this doleful date in Jewish history cannot be dissociated from the irrefutable fact that it also fuelled the irrepressible hope and resolve of the Jewish people to regain national independence in their ancestral homeland.

The religious Jew regards the renaissance of Israel as an independent state only as the partial fulfillment of his hopes and prayers; he projects into the future when the Temple will be rebuilt and the priestly service is resumed in full regalia. This is what he pleadingly appeals for the year round and more so on Tisha B'Av.

The nationally oriented Jew realizes full well that more political and military bouts are inescapable before a peaceful and secure era for Israel is finally achieved. To him too, Tisha B'Av is a sobering reminder that the redemptive task is yet incomplete.

And the Talmud in Ta'anit 30a sums it up best: "All those who mourn for Jerusalem will merit to witness her rejoicing."

SANTIAGO, Chile (WNS) — A ranking member of Chile's military government has promised the Jewish community that every effort will be made to apprehend the persons responsible for a rash of anti-Semitic incidents in recent months.

Gen. Rodolfo Paredes, Director General of Investigations, condemned the incidents and conveyed assurances that a determined effort would be undertaken to find the perpetrators, according to two Jewish community leaders with whom he met. They are Isidoro Gorodischer and Jose Avayu, president and secretary respectively of the Representative Committee of Jewish Organizations in Chile, the Jewish community's umbrella organization.

Gorodischer and

Avayu conveyed to Paredes their community's serious concern over the reappearance of anti-Semitic pamphlets and advertisements in Chilean newspapers by the California-based Institute for Historical Review, a rightwing revisionist group which claims the Holocaust was a Jewish hoax and never took place. The

community is also concerned by the recent daubing of swastikas on the walls of the Hebrew Institute here and the Jewish Kindergarten.

Gorodischer also disclosed after the meeting that the Jewish Representative Committee had requested an audience with Interior Minister Richardo Garcia.



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