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Now Is The Time!

President Reagan, in his address to the United Nations General Assembly, affirmed, as he had done on many previous occasions, his intense concern about human rights in the Soviet Union. He has spoken out on numerous occasions about the violations of human rights in that country, in particular, about the suffering of the Soviet Jews.

Now the President has an opportunity to deal with this issue forcefully and directly -- not merely in public speeches -- when he meets with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva next month. This has to be a top priority item on his agenda because the violation of human rights is as fundamental a blow to world peace as is the violation of an arms treaty.

The Soviet Union has just about completely closed its doors to Jewish emigration, harasses and imprisons Jewish men and women who want to leave or want to live as Jews in the USSR. There are now 32 Soviet Jewish Prisoners of Conscience and more are facing their fate.

President Reagan must make it clear to Gorbachev that the issue of human rights concerns every American, not just Jews, because the death of one human spirit is the death of all. He might remind Gorbachev of the words of the English poet, John Donne, that "every man's death diminishes me." Human rights and human freedom is not just a shibboleth used on pious or public occasions but deeply rooted in the life of everyone.

Now is the time for Reagan to make Gorbachev aware that American-Soviet relations cannot be completely bound unless the Soviet Union lives up to the Helsinki accords and to its own Constitution. It really isn't too much to ask for

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations
By David Horowitz
A World—Union Press Feature

Peres Captivates New York

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) — Shimon Peres, fully enjoying his 'temporary' role as Prime Minister which office he has been struggling to attain for many years, found himself among the world's leading heads of state and Foreign Ministers who had assembled here to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the UN.

Basking in the sunshine of global diplomacy, the former close aide of Israel's First Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion appeared clearly to have captivated this great Metropolis of New York and even made a good impression on many delegations here despite the fact that when he ascended the podium to deliver his speech in the Assembly last week all the Arabs with the exception of Egypt walked out to their shame. They

were joined by several Africans and Asians including Iran, Afghanistan, Nicaragua and Vietnam

And although he made an appeal proclaiming to the world that "the state of war between Israel and Jordan should be terminated immediately" and that "Israel declares this readiness in the hope that King Hussein is willing to reciprocate this step," surprisingly, the Jordanian delegation was nowhere to be seen in the hall - whether deliberately or not is difficult to know. But Amman's absence when the voice of Israel made a call for a peaceful settlement with its immediate neighbor does not bode well for the future and Jerusalem must take serious note of this fact.

In the meantime, the stubborn chess player King Hussein -- who owes his kingship to a foul deal which a former British regime made with the late Emir Abdullah, a deal violating the League of Nations Mandate adjudicating the historic boundaries of the Jewish National Home -- has given no definitive reply to Peres' invitation. On the contrary, he has turned to Syria again in an effort to renew diplomatic relations with that pro-Soviet state. Let us note that this happened while Peres offered his peace plan.

Times correspondent Judith Miller reports from Amman that Hussein's Prime Minister Zaid al-Rifai had spent two days at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, conferring with the Syrian Prime Minister Abdel-Raouf al-Kassem during which they outlined "what they called a common position on the Middle East." He noted that "the Syrian-Jordanian agreement which did not mention the PLO, commits the two countries to resolutions of Arab summit meetings and provides for adherence to a peace plan adopted at the 1982 summit meeting at Fez, Morocco, calling for a comprehensive Middle East peace in the context of an international peace conference to be held under UN auspices and attended by all parties."

The Syrian-Jordanian statement, moreover, rejected all partial and unilateral peace agreements with Israel.

So here, apparently, we have King Hussein's reply to direct negotiations.

Shimon Peres' week in New York has been hectic. Aside from his many meetings with diplomats, his days have been filled with appearances before national Jewish organizations and TV and radio interviews. However, the single visit in which he felt fully at home and enjoyed most was the one with the American Associates of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

This unique gala dinner -- held at the Plaza Hotel the evening of the Premier's historic UN address -- marked the launching of activities of the 100th anniversary of Ben-Gurion's birth. The lion-hearted Negev-oriented Prime Minister had loved his young aide as a son, and Peres' presence with the dedicated champions of the University named after his mentor served to transform the event into a sort of 'family' reunion. Sitting at a table with the Associates

King of One Liners



HENNY YOUNGMAN ... Man of Many Talents.

He said, "I love you terribly." She said, "You certainly do."

President, Jack J. Spitzer, who presided at the dinner, Shimon Peres, happily relaxed, no doubt contemplated over his early life reviving memories of the days he spent so closely with B.G.

Addressing the dinner guests, he reminisced briefly on those days referring to the evolution of B.G.'s rise to the Premiership from his humble beginning as a simple Halutz in a Kibbutz. As honorary chairman of a special drive for the future support of Israel's only University in the Negev desert. Mr. Peres launched the B.G. University's Centennial Endowment Fund to be supported by 100 individuals who as 'Friends of David Ben-Gurion' will each contribute \$100,000. The major donors will participate in special activities at the University's Sde Boker campus during the Centennial year beginning in October 1986.

Present to greet the Prime Minister was the Israeli artist Yaacob Agam, best known for his geometric, kinetic art. Part of the evening program involved the presentation by him of a special large portfolio of 10 silkscreens celebrating the life of Ben-Gurion to the American Associates. Containing a Forward by Mr. Peres, it will be presented to the donors of the Fund.

Peres closed his UN address with the reading in Hebrew of the following passage from the Prophet Haggai, chapter 2, verses 7 and 9 -- omitting 6 and 8:

"For thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet Once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth...And I will shake the nations, and the choicest things of all the nations shall come, and I will fill this House with glory, saith the Lord of Hosts...The glory of this Latter House shall be greater than that of the First, saith the Lord of Hosts; and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts."

TELL TALES

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"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

(Continued from page 1)

swift, sure, absolute retribution is the most effective form of deterrence. When those criminals style themselves as an arm, or a government, of a purportedly sovereign state, the principle is no different.

They must understand that their acts of wanton brutality will not go unpunished. They must understand that we will take whatever steps that are necessary to protect our citizens, wherever they may be, and that we will do whatever is necessary to punish those who ignore that warning.

All of us think every day about the quest for peace. I believe we have some special knowledge of the absolute horrors of the evils of war. But, the way to avoid those evils is not by turning aside and covering our eyes. We must demonstrate our continued determination to deal swiftly and firmly with any form of international terrorism -- whatever its source and whatever the short-term cost.

Perhaps we have stopped short our descent into the abyss of appeasement. Perhaps we have even turned about and begun to climb out.

The journey up, however, is long and hard, and we have taken just a single step. Let us resolve to continue to struggle up those steps, out of that dark gulf. Let us resolve to work together, with our colleagues in Congress, with the Administration, and with the American people to demonstrate that the United States will no longer temporize with murderers. Let us resolve to punish swiftly the acts of terrorism against our citizens whenever and wherever they may occur.