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Mubarak's Credibility

After protracted debate, the government of Israel last week agreed on a formula designed to bring a settlement to the long simmering dispute over Taba, the tiny strip of beachfront in Sinai. Israel has agreed to settle the dispute through binding arbitration, in the process of which conciliation will also be tried.

The efforts to patch up this fostering point of contention between Israel and Egypt came after a stormy 13-hour session of the Inner Cabinet, the top policy making forum of the unity government. Premier Shimon Peres told reporters that the decision would reverse the steady decline in relations between Cairo and Jerusalem.

The 'cold peace,' as relations have often been described between the two countries, dates back to Israel's invasion of Lebanon in June, 1982, and the subsequent recall of the Egyptian Ambassador to Tel Aviv. There has also been a gradual though steady decline in other aspects of the normalization process, including tourism, trade and diplomatic and cultural exchanges.

Furthermore, the Egyptian media has over the past years engaged in scathing and often crude attacks on Israel. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has been urged to put a halt to these attacks. Nonetheless, the response from Egypt has been less than forthcoming. Officials in Cairo claim that the Israeli media is far from free of strong attacks on Egypt and that Egypt never asked Israel to muzzle its press.

Meanwhile, Mubarak has made the dispute over Taba a case of national pride and significance in Egypt, though it remains unlikely that many citizens there even know where Taba is or care about the dispute's outcome. The Israelis, apparently, did not believe Taba was worth the ongoing and widening breach with Egypt.

As the Cabinet agreement explained, the first eight months of the arbitration process would actually be a period of conciliation attempts during which arbitration would be empowered to propose compromise formulas. It was also pointed out that Israel's agreement to arbitration would have to be matched by a serious uninterrupted process of building normal relations between Cairo and Jerusalem.

Mubarak has always been concerned with his standing among his Arab brethren. But he must understand that his ability to settle the dispute is central to his standing with the Jewish people and the international community. Israel has always been committed to the spirit and substance of the peace treaty with Egypt. It is now Mubarak's turn to demonstrate that he, too, is equally committed to peace with Israel. A quick and fair settlement of the Taba issue would give credence to this commitment.

LONDON (WNS) — Malcolm Rifkind, a 39-year-old lawyer, has been appointed Secretary of State for Scotland, making him the youngest person in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet and its fifth Jewish-born leader.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By David Horowitz

A World—Union Press Feature

Something New -- USSR Joins The U.S. Vs Terrorism

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) — Seldom do the Soviets and Americans find common ground on any of the major agenda items annually confronting the world organization.

It was thus a rare occasion last December 18 when the Security Council -- in what was probably the briefest session in the annals of UN history, a mere five minutes -- adopted by a unanimous vote draft resolution 579 which called "for the immediate release of all hostages and abducted persons wherever and by whomever they are being held" and which recalled a previous Council decision "absolutely condemning all acts of terrorism..."

The meeting was requested by Ambassador Vernon A. Walters in connection with "the serious situation created by acts of hostage-taking and abduction" as also because of a growing number of terrorist incidents afflicting the world.

Australia, Denmark, Egypt, France, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom joined the United States in sponsoring the draft which stated, in part:

"Deeply disturbed at the prevalence of incidents of hostage-taking and abduction... Considering that the taking of hostages and abductions are offenses of grave concern to the international community...; Recalling the statement of 9 October 1985 by the President of the Security Council resolutely condemning all acts of terrorism, including hostage-taking... Condemns unequivocally all acts of hostage-taking and abduction; Calls for the immediate safe release of all hostages and abducted persons wherever and by whomever they are being held... Affirms the obligation of all States in whose territory hostages or abducted persons are held urgently to take all appropriate measures to secure their safe release and to prevent the commission of acts of hostage-taking and abduction in the future..."

While the USSR along with some of the third world States have joined the U.S. in adopting the resolution against the taking of hostages, and although the General Assembly approved a draft "condemning as criminal all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever and by whomever committed," this same resolution contained one flaw, namely, it legitimized terrorism by linking it to a 'struggle for self-determination' such as is continually claimed by

King of One Liners



HENNY YOUNGMAN

...Man of Many Talents.

I know one football player who's been in college for 13 years, it's kind of a sad story. He can run, and he can kick - but he can't pass.

the PLO and other so-called 'liberation movements.'

The Assembly resolution referred to in the Council draft against the taking of hostages heard a number of bemoaning recitals by Syrian, Iraqi, Iranian and other malcontents accusing Israel of all the evils attending international terrorism, and well indeed did Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu counter them. "What this Assembly has just adopted," he declared, "is a resolution condemning terrorism, without any relations to what professed or real aims the terrorists are claiming to be fighting for. Therefore, all that was said here by the various representatives is an attempt to hit at, blur and dissipate what was achieved in this hall a minute ago.

"I could not suppress a chuckle," Netanyahu continued, "when I heard those solemn condemnations of terrorism by some of the representatives of States and organizations that have perfected terrorism. I would say they were the pioneers of terrorism before they perfected it.

"I heard from the representative of Iraq, a country which has just issued a diplomatic passport to Abu Abbas and had previously sheltered and launched Abu Nidal, perhaps the

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TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

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Jewish Resource Center), will be speaking on the topic "Will Our Grandchildren be Jewish?" The evening's discourse "is an analysis of the changing American Jewish family and how the creation of public Jewish culture can help lead to the revitalization of family life and Jewish commitment."

What until September 16, 1985 was called the National Jewish Resource Center was founded in 1974 in the conviction that a new era in Jewish life has emerged after the Holocaust and the rebirth of the State of Israel. The Center offers intensive learning and experiential programs to train people for Jewish leadership in the spirit of CLAL Yisrael -- the unity and totality of the Jewish people. In the past eight years, the Center has pioneered in continuing education for Jewish communal leadership. Rabbi Irving Greenberg is its president.

Rabbi Kimelman holds a bachelor's degree from Columbia University, a bachelor's and master's from The Jewish Theological University and master's and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University.

Dr. Kimelman has held the position of five-college professor of Judaic studies based at Amherst College. He has taught at Mt. Holyoke, Smith, Trinity and Williams Colleges as well as The Jewish Theological Seminary and Hebrew University. He has been awarded fellowships from national foundations and from Yale, Brandeis and Hebrew University.

Rabbi Kimelman frequently lectures for academic conferences, synagogue groups and national Jewish organizations. He has served as scholar-in-residence including retreats and conventions, and is scholar-in-residence this April at the Jewish Welfare Board Biennial in Toronto.

The rabbi has published in journals of scholarly and popular interest, and his topical articles, "Can There Be A Jewish Terrorist?" and "Judging Man By The Standards of God," appeared as cover articles of the B'nai B'rith Jewish Monthly.

Those in our community who have heard Rabbi Kimelman are eagerly looking forward to this educator, writer and lecturer's coming to our community. We have another outstanding evening.