

## Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By David Horowitz

A World—Union Press Feature

(Continued from page 4)

similar right to launch an operation against the breeding-ground of terrorism in Syrian-dominated Lebanon where Americans and Westerners are being murdered. Such an operation may save Lebanon itself from anarchy. No doubt most honest Lebanese, Moslems, Christians and Druze, will welcome an American rescue, especially now, after having felt the iron heel of Assad's divisive rule.

Addressing an earlier Security Council meeting in justifying Israel's 1982 operation in Lebanon, Ambassador Netanyahu admonished the feuding Lebanese: "There are certain basic assumptions about sovereign rights, or rather, there are certain basic assumptions sovereign states accept and expect from one another; they expect them to keep law and order within their borders; they expect them to keep agreements they signed, regardless of outside pressures; they expect them to prevent the use of their territory as a terrorist base against other states.

"But," Netanyahu continued in his reprimanding statement, "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..."

"It was this last Lebanese failure," he emphasized, "that led Israel to act in 1982. We did what Lebanon, had it asserted its sovereignty, should have done in the first place... But as the Syrian army lobbed shells into Beirut, the Lebanese government caved in and broke the May 17 Israeli-Lebanese peace agreement... From that day on all Lebanese actions... would be carried out only with the approval of Syria..."

What the U.S. prevented Israel from completing in 1982, Washington may now be forced to implement itself.

TEL AVIV (WNS) — El Al, Israel's national airline, has sustained a 10 percent loss of American bookings to Europe and to the Middle East because of the terrorist threat following the U.S. air strike against Libya. But it has suffered far less than other airlines which on the average have lost 35 percent of their bookings,

Come Join

# Temple Emanu-El

In Celebrating Israel's  
**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

WITH A

Wine & Cheese Fundraiser

When: May 13, 1986, Tuesday

Time: 7PM - 10PM

Where: Imperial Palace - Room B

Sponsor: Southern Wines & Spirits  
of Nevada

Music - Door Prizes - Raffles

**DONATION - \$5.00**

**CALL**

Trudy 876-5307 or Beverly 363-1418

For Tickets

## The Covenant Of All The Generations

(Copyright 1986 by The Shalom Center, a national center for Jewish perspectives on preventing nuclear holocaust. Dr. Carl Sagan, of Cornell University, is a world-renowned astronomer and science writer. In February he received the Viki List and Albert A. List Brit HaDorot (Covenant of the Generations) Award from the Shalom Center for his work on "nuclear winter.")

By Carl Sagan

Does the human race have "tenure" as a species on this planet? Let us look at the history of the dinosaurs. What destroyed them? Probably a large object out of space about ten kilometers across, which carved a hole in the ocean bottom; created a tsunami, a tidal wave, a "flood," of unprecedented scale; and sprayed particles of smoke and dust high up into the atmosphere. These particles blocked the sun, darkening and cooling the earth, and wiping out the dinosaurs who were unprepared for sudden chills.

It's stretching things a little to say that the "flood" killed the dinosaurs, but still, this is sufficiently close to Genesis, chapter 6 through 9, that we can try to seek some further wisdom from the story of Noah.

In Genesis 6-9, after Noah twists God's arm a little bit, God promises Noah that there will be no more floods. But God reserves his options of other forms of planetary catastrophe.

Such catastrophes are now within our own hands to make. Indeed, there is a midrashic tradition of a different sort of flood, a Flood of Fire, *mabul esh*. We ourselves have the capability to cause such a Flood of Fire -- unprecedented devastation, worldwide, through our own actions; unprecedented at least during the tenure of the human species on earth.

We have, almost without noticing it, accumulated, since 1945, 60,000 nuclear weapons, almost all of which are more powerful than the bombs that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Think of it! Sixty thousand nuclear weapons! Of them something approaching 25,000 are what are called strategic nuclear weapons, meaning they are intended to destroy the homeland of the potential adversary.

How many cities are there on the planet Earth? If we define a city as having 100,000 people or more, there are 2300 cities on earth. That means that the United States and the Soviet Union could completely wipe out every city on earth and have 20,000 strategic weapons left over with the targeteers wondering what to do with them.

What if we did much less than this -- burned only between a dozen and a hundred cities -- by no means a "large" nuclear war, considering how huge the arsenals are? From the burning cities and from forest wildfires also, the dust and smoke from air bursts and ground bursts would produce a thick cloud of dark, fine particles that would stay up in the atmosphere, block out the sun, cool and darken the earth, in a kind of parallel to what we think happened 65 million years ago at the end of the Cretaceous period of geological time.

Our calculations indicate that the temperature would drop below freezing for very long periods of time -- not just 40 days and 40 nights, but in some of the calculations for years. The light levels would go down to something like one percent of ambient average over the northern mid-

latitude target zone.

So that is a way of saying that nuclear war posits a fundamental threat to all of us. Nations that might have contemplated sitting this war out find that they can be utterly destroyed without a single nuclear weapon falling in their territory, without any hostilities happening in their vicinity. Indonesia, say, or Nigeria, or Brazil, could be utterly wiped out by the destruction of agriculture, the cold, the dark, the disease, the radiation sickness, without any hostilities on their territories.

So suddenly we find that we're all in this together. Suddenly it's not just the United States and the Soviet Union and Britain, France and China, to mention the five nuclear powers that have the ability to generate nuclear winter, but everybody. This is why just a year ago, the Secretary-General of the United Nations asked, "By what right do the United States and the Soviet Union decide the fate of the human species?" A good question, one well worth contemplating.

Why do we have 60,000 nuclear weapons in the world? It's madness.

Our calculation says that nuclear winter starts when you burn a dozen downtowns, so the threat of destruction of say ten major cities in the United States is probably sufficient to deter us from doing absolutely mad things, and likewise on the Soviet side. So you can imagine a level of the world's arsenals sufficiently high that a sequestered retaliatory force would be perfectly adequate to guarantee deterrence, and at the same time be sufficiently low that no concentration of circumstances could lead to the Flood of Fire.

Can we get from here to there?

The present situation is a very critical one. It is a great opportunity, and a great disaster if we don't take the opportunity. The Soviet Union is offering things it never offered before, including on-site inspection, massive reduction in strategic and tactical arsenals, and the United States so far has been sluggish.

What is the Covenant of the Generations? We are maybe the 50,000th generation of humans, and that takes us back a few million years. Imagine that progression of humans and think of a line -- yourself, one of your parents, the parent of that parent, and so on, and imagine a straight line of 50,000 people ending up with you. And then imagine it going into the future.

Now that sequence is in peril. If we permit a nuclear war to happen, the lives of all those people, whoever lived before us, may be made meaningless, and the lives of all those people who would come after us would be snuffed out. Extinction is forever. So we have a covenant of the generations, all the generations that have been, and all the generations that are yet to be. We are in charge. By a strange cosmic accident, it's our time that's in charge of what happens to that long line of ancestors and descendants.

Noted pianist-conductor Karl Haas, host of an internationally-syndicated classical music radio program, will give his third annual Las Vegas concert May 19. The concert is co-sponsored by KNPR-FM Radio, 89.5, public radio for southern Nevada, and the University of Nevada Las Vegas Music Department.

The concert will be at 8 p.m. Monday, May 19 in the Judy Bayley Theatre on the UNLV campus. The theme will be Great Composers and their Loves, featuring works by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schumann, Chopin and Debussy. For further information, contact: Kathy Rose, 456-6695.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Receptions &

Wedding Receptions

Parties • Dances • Birthdays

**D J's UNLIMITED**

2728 Topaz Ct. • Las Vegas, NV 89121  
(702) 457-1614

Mobile Disc Jockey

"Music For All Occasions"

**NEVADA TABLE PAD CO.**

Custom Made Table Pads  
Belgian Linen Tablecloths

KAREN EFFRON

702-438-4442  
FREE ESTIMATES