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A Sukkot Message

By Dr. Joseph P. Sternstein
President, Jewish National Fund

Sukkot, the annual seven-day autumnal Feast of Booths, will begin on Saturday, October 18.

During this holiday, which is observed from the fifteenth to the twenty-first day of the Hebrew month of Tishri, we commemorate the sukkot, or booths, in which our brethren dwelt in the wilderness after the Exodus. Once the Israelites took possession of the promised land, they became farmers and tillers of the soil. Sukkot dotted the fields, to protect farmer and crop from the heat of day.

For many centuries hence, the land of Israel lay desolate. The Jewish National Fund's 85 years of visionary labor, however, has transformed the Jewish homeland so that once again it may yield forth a bounteous harvest. JNF has developed the infrastructure of hundreds of rural villages, to the point that 30% of Israel's population lives on land prepared by JNF. In addition, JNF has built over 3,000 miles of rural roads and continues to reclaim the land of the Negev desert, allowing farmers to grow cash crops in this most arid environment.

During Sukkot, may the entire Jewish people continue to remember our commitment to the developing of the land of Israel, so that it may continue to thrive and bring forth the earth's bounty.

Behind The Scenes

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

Days Of Awe -- Light And Shadows On The International Scene

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) — During this period of solemnity when we are called upon to search our souls and to repent for the transgressions the UN chose to present a parody of repentance.

Instead of condemning the terrorists in all their variety as found in Lebanon — the PLO, the fanatic 'Party of God' Hezbollah, Amal, etc. — for the killing of UN soldiers there, the Security Council chose to blame Israel for the crimes of others.

In this 'Song of non-Repentance,' they were lustily joined by the country whose nationals had been the victims — France. The U.S. merely listened instead of directing the allocation of blame where it belonged.

Another example of the perversion of all moral values in the name of realpolitik can be found in the exchange of the innocent journalist Nicholas Daniloff for the convicted spy Gennadi F. Zakharov.

However one disguises the deal and however

grateful one may be for the release of an innocent man together with another innocent victim, the noted human rights activist Yuri Orlov, one cannot hide one's disappointment at the price which had to be paid.

The only ray of light which emerged during this period on the international horizon was the formal indictment by a court in Tel Aviv of the war criminal 'Ivan the Terrible' who had been extradited by the U.S. to Israel.

Here at least was an example to the world where a crime for which no repentance had been expressed was not to go unpunished simply because so many preferred to forget it than to learn a lesson from it.

The recent Security Council debate on UNIFIL, initiated by France, witnessed fourteen of its fifteen members approve a draft resolution that directed its main complaint against Israel and its South Lebanese Christian friends. Instead of, as we stated above, "directing the allocation of blame where it belonged," on the fanatic Hezbollah murderers, the U.S., which might well have vetoed the draft and thus have killed it, found it expedient to abstain.

No wonder Israel's dynamic Ambassador Netanyahu told the Council that the "resolution in itself will contribute to the growth of terrorism, to a growth of attacks on UNIFIL." He went on to remind his listeners that the Council action reflects an "unfortunate regression. Last year," he declared, "this Council, and, indeed, this Organization, both in the General Assembly and in this Chamber, began to assume a more positive attitude towards the problem of terrorism. You attack the terrorists. You attack them politically and you acquire the means — the physical, military and other means necessary — to roll them back. This today is a regression, a clear regression from that general purpose that I and my Government had thought this body was making."

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, at a press conference here, had the hutzpah to state that France had no proof that any government was behind the recent wave of terrorist bombings in Paris: "We have never said and I don't think that that group (of terrorists) and its accomplices are either assisted or given support by a state." He made this statement despite the fact that the whole world knows that certain UN Member States not only train these terrorists but also finance them. Certainly Libya and Syria are involved. Moreover, the lethal weapons the murderers use are Soviet-supplied.

It's not surprising that those who turn to the UN in search of justice will be turned away empty-handed, but those who look to Zion will find redemption through righteousness. Let us hope that in their mini-summit meeting in far-off Iceland, the heads of the two most powerful states will be guided by the spirit of Jerusalem and not mired down in the mud of Turtle Bay — the site of UN headquarters.

King of One Liners



HENNY YOUNGMAN
...Man of Many Talents.

My Doctor says I must give up those little intimate dinners for two unless I have someone eating with me.

Jewish Delegation Meets Mitterrand

A delegation of four prominent Jewish leaders met with French President Francois Mitterrand to encourage his continued support of the effort to aid Soviet Jews.

Members of the group were Natan Shcharansky, the recently-released Soviet refusenik; Seymour Reich, President of B'nai B'rith International; Aryeh Dulzin, Chairman of the World Zionist Organization; and Theo Klein, President of CRIF, the representative council of Jewish organizations in France. The delegation was accompanied by Ovadia Soffaer, Israel's Ambassador to France.

In the meeting, Reich thanked Mitterrand for his past efforts, at the same time noting that the President's unique position as a Western European leader could help to influence other nations to champion the cause of Soviet Jews. "When Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan meet at the summit, all of us hope that agreement can be reached on strategic weapons and nuclear issues," Reich said. "Nevertheless, we are mindful of the fact that the Soviets have not honored the pledges they made on human rights when they signed the Helsinki Accords. The Soviets can demonstrate good faith to the United States and the rest of the world by releasing the thousands of Soviet Jews who wish to be reunited with their families, and by according full citizenship rights to the Jews who choose to remain in The Soviet Union.

Shcharansky spoke movingly of the plight of Soviet Jews, citing the recent arrest of several Jews whose only crime was teaching Hebrew.

Responding to the delegation, President Mitterrand pledged his continued support and renewed efforts. He said that the long struggle had been marked by occasional disappointment, but that the cause of Soviet Jewry could not and would not be abandoned.

BALTIMORE (WNS) — State of Israel Bond sales in the first eight months of 1986 totaled nearly \$333 million. This represents a \$51 million increase over the same period last year and \$110 million over the similar period in 1984.

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

(Continued from page 1)

Hecht, who will be honored by the Academy and entertainers to be announced shortly, serves on the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee. Senator Hecht was named Chairman of the Housing and Urban Affairs Subcommittee, the only Senator to hold the position after serving only two years in office. He is also a member of the Energy and National Resources Committee and currently serves on the Select Committee on Intelligence which oversees intelligence gathering activities of the United States.

Hecht was elected to the United States Senate in 1982, the only Republican challenger to defeat a Democratic incumbent in the U.S. Senate during the 1982 election. The Senator and his wife, Gail, a former school teacher, have two daughters, Lori and Leslie.

The Hebrew Academy, formed in 1980, is a co-educational, non-profit, and nonparochial school that fosters self-esteem, a lasting love for learning and self-discipline. The school also identifies and challenges the academically talented and motivated students at a critical period of their development. The school serves kindergarten through 9th grade.

For tickets to the gala, call the Hebrew Academy at 384-4500.