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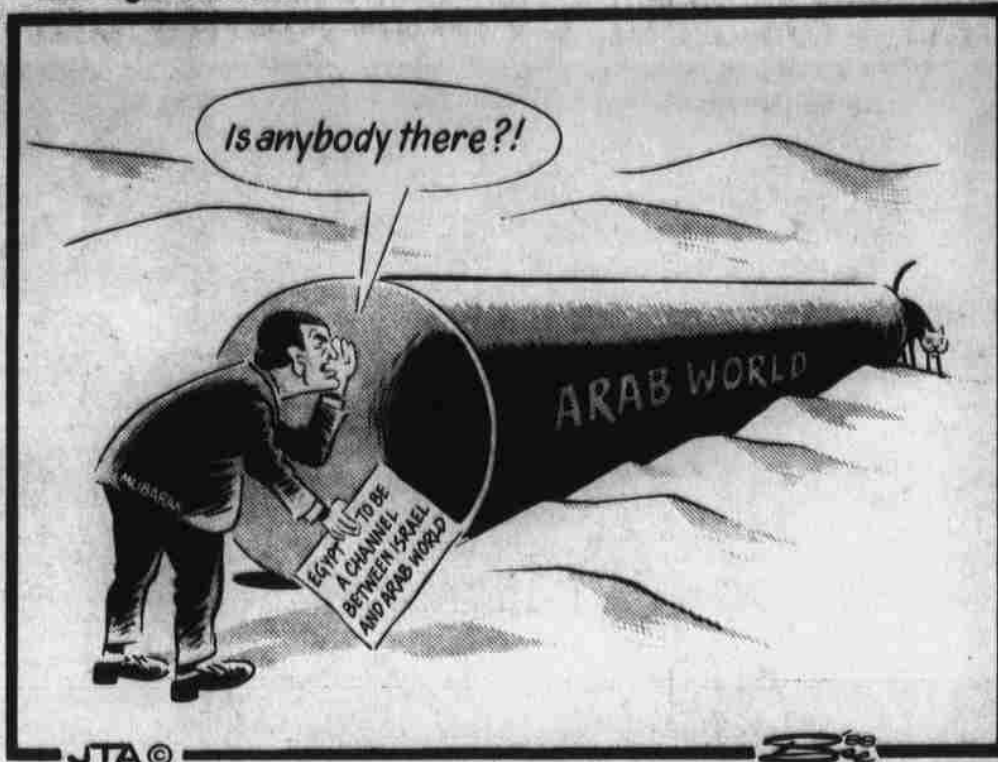
*"We Hear The News The Best"*

The Only English-Jewish Newspaper in Nevada  
 P.O. Box 14096 Las Vegas, Nevada 89114  
 Published Bi-Weekly in Las Vegas, Nevada  
 Per year \$12 — 2 years \$20  
 PHONE 702/876-1255

Founder..... Jack Tell  
 Editor & Publisher..... Michael Tell  
 Business Manager..... Bea Tell  
 Art Director..... Neil Wilson  
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 Director of Photography..... Marvin

Bill Willard, Joe Behar, Trude Feldman,  
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Member of World-Union Press  
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 Serving the Jewish Community of Nevada



### Israel As Reality

By Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum

A network commentator asked me recently to explain the anguish of American Jews over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. With many others, I have thought hard about that question, and I think I understand how deep that dilemma is.

For most of us raised on the Bible and 4,000 years of Jewish tradition, Israel is a dream image. It is the Promised Land, the land of milk and honey, the 'laboratory of social justice prophesied by the prophets and sages. The rabbinic midrash speaks of Jerusalem as the center of the universe where the Messiah will appear, causing the lion to lie down with the lamb in perfect harmony and peace.

When the State of Israel was created in 1948, the dream image was transformed into a geopolitical reality. Suddenly, the Jewish people had to cope not with an idealized utopia, but with the tough realities of every nation-state -- national security and defense, building a unified democracy out of a polyglot population, governing unruly minorities.

The dissonance between the dream images of a perfect society and the complicated choices of defending a real nation with real weapons hovers over the present anguished debate. In the midst of this emotional turmoil, however, one thing remains clear: The majority of Israeli and American Jews want a peaceful resolution of the conflict with the Palestinians and Arabs.

If the present peace initiatives will lead to responsible Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and beyond, most Jews will support such serious moves to end riots and bloodshed, for that has been the dream of Israel since its biblical days.

the unending political debates which, to a large degree, involve vitriolic attacks against the descendants of Mordechai and Esther.

This week's column will be devoted to an international organization, which, during the more than one hundred years of its existence has become indispensable in performing -- most useful and productive work for the people of all communities, rendering life-saving services to some of humanity's most oppressed members.

Highlights of ORT's phenomenal accomplishments in 'Rehabilitation through Training' in all parts of the world were brought to the fore during the four-day American ORT Federation's National Conference held recently at the Sheraton Centre Hotel under the Presidency of David B. Hermelin.

The Conference this year commemorated

(Continued on page 13)

### TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

(Continued from page 1)

restore order in the territories must be taken in context. Islamic ritual and holy places are exploited by rioters who turn mosques into fortresses and throw molotov cocktails and stones down on nearby soldiers. Rioters use the Friday prayer service to incite worshippers, such as those at the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, to violent demonstrations. The rioters are not children throwing pebbles and shouting epithets. They are mobs throwing molotov cocktails, stones, and metal pipes, and in-

dividuals stabbing soldiers and attacking civilian vehicles; Israel authorities have to take strong action to restore order.

Unfortunately, deaths and injuries are often the result when violent riots take place. Similar tragedies have occurred in recent years in India, Ireland and the Philippines, but they received relatively little attention. When such incidents happen in Israel they spark an international outcry and a host of U.N. resolutions against Israel. A shameful double standard is applied to Israel. More than 2500 Palestinians died in the recently-lifted Amal siege of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, and the world took little notice. Israel's actions against violent rioters, and the deaths which resulted, continue to be front page news.

Much has also been said about Israel's policy of deporting some of those responsible for the recent violence. The legal question is complex. British mandatory regulations and Jordanian law, which are the applicable legal systems in the administered territories, allow for deportation. Furthermore, according to the interpretation of many scholars, the Geneva Conventions, while forbidding mass deportation and mass forcible transfers, do provide for deportation when "the security of the population or imperative military reasons so demand."

Others believe the Geneva Convention forbid all deportations, including those Israel has carried out against four Palestinians involved in the recent rioting. It should be remembered that Israel has used deportation very rarely. Anyone threatened with deportation may appeal to the courts, with the Israeli Supreme Court as the final court of appeal. Deportation is used only for those jailed repeatedly for terrorism, or leaders of terrorist organizations who will not stop their illegal activity.

All of the nine Palestinians who received deportation orders have been imprisoned at least twice before; five are officers in the PLO, one is an officer of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and three are Islamic fundamentalists who have incited violence in the past. The American press has not reported this fact. The PFLP officer was serving a life sentence for murder when he was released during the prisoners-for-hostages exchange Israel conducted after the Lebanon war.

The future of Gaza and the West Bank is complex. It remains unresolved and understandably the political frustration of the inhabitants is growing. However, it is not a problem Israel can resolve unilaterally. Only face-to-face negotiations between Israel and its neighbors hold any hope of ending the tragic situation.

The U.S. government should continue to encourage face-to-face negotiation between Israel and its neighbors as the only way to end the Arab-Israeli conflict and ultimately decide the fate of the West Bank and Gaza. The U.S. is in a unique position to encourage moderate Arabs to come to the bargaining table and begin to work toward a true peace. We have a responsibility to do everything in our power to encourage a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict.

### Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By David Horowitz

A World-Union Press Feature

### Happy Purim

#### ORT -- Global Jewish Project Of Rehabilitation

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) — At this time of the year when we Jews are encouraged to become intoxicated in commemoration of the miraculous salvation of the Jews of Persia from total destruction by Hitler's forerunner Haman, it would only be appropriate to deal with some other aspects of human folly as they unfold so richly in this "Theatre of the Absurd" otherwise known as the United Nations.

However, as it is the unenviable "lot" of your correspondent to deal with such matters during the rest of the year, he has chosen this Purim to illustrate the opposite of what happens here in

### King of One Liners



HENNY YOUNGMAN

...Man of Many Talents.

I don't read the newspaper because all I read is about hate, poverty & lust . . . I've got that at home.