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Founder..... Jack Tell
Editor & Publisher..... Michael Tell
Business Manager..... Bea Tell
Art Director..... Neil Wilson
Layout Artist..... Cherry Bowling
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Anschluss Reveals Worst And Best Of Austria

By Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum

The observance this month of the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss, Nazi Germany's annexation of Austria, is revealing the worst and best of Austrian society.

The worst is reflected in the appalling fact that for the past 40 years most Austrians have imagined themselves the "first victims" of Nazi aggression and have systematically denied or repressed any knowledge of their massive involvement. But the historic truths brought to the fore during this commemoration can no longer be denied.

When Hitler and his Nazi hordes marched in Austria on March 13, 1938, they were greeted deliriously by some 200,000 Austrians in Vienna. Austria provided three-quarters of the death-camp officers, including Adolf Eichmann and SS Commander Ernst Kaltenbrunner.

Bitter political anti-Semitism was incubated by Vienna's Mayor Karl von Lueger in the 1870's and other politicians, and heavy traces of that pathology remain.

But the best of Austria is also surfacing today. Young Austrians by the thousands are holding vigils, demonstrating for Waldheim's resignation and sponsoring seminars on Austria's Nazi past. And most reassuring is the leadership of Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, who embodies the now democratic Austria. Vranitzky gave meaning to the Anschluss, on March 12, in these words:

"We must never forget and we must insure there is nothing in today's society that could lead us into an abyss, as happened in 1938."

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By David Horowitz

A World-Union Press Feature

The Old Enmity -- A Passover Reminder

"In every generation there are those who rise against us to eradicate us..."
(From the Hagaddah)

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) — If an object lesson was needed to show this truth for this very day, the recent events in Israel have provided it.

The throwers of stones at Jews have become the heroes not only of the Islamic world but also of the Christian. The shooters of pellets aimed at Jews are pictured as children snatched from their mothers' arms by heavily armed Jewish persecutors: Shades of the ritual murders of the Middle Ages, of the pogroms of Kishinev and of all the blood libels of the Jews throughout the generations.



Only now they are no longer proclaimed in churches and monestaries but they appear on every TV screen throughout the world.

Jews are killing Gentiles and the tocsin is sounded in the Security Council and the State Department and, alas, even in the homes of some of our so-called philosophers and "rabbis."

The Jew is wrong, even if what is said about him is a lie, because he has no business being in a position other than that of the persecuted. How dare he get up and hit back? An end must be put to this outrage. Take away his state, cut it in pieces; give back his capital to its "true" owners and make him beg again for the sympathy of the non-Jews! Only then will the world be restored to its natural order.

No effort must be spared to achieve that result. Bring in the Russians, the Chinese, the Germans and the other Europeans; hold an international conference, make Shultz shuttle back and forth, elevate the pigmy Hussein to the stature of a giant and pretend that the impotent UN has a real role to play.

Interestingly, Joel the prophet clearly saw what we see happening today. Speaking of the distant future, he declared: "For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I bring back the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all nations...and I will enter into judgment with them, for My people and for My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and divided My land..." (Chapter 4: 1-2)

Unfortunately, some in Israel eager to elevate themselves at the expense of their brethren, play along with the charade. All that is missing is the appointment of a Waldheim as the Secretary-General of the conference so eagerly sought by the Arabs, the USSR and Messrs. Peres, Eban, Schindler, et al.

The Hagaddah tells of salvation from Pharaoh and his successors, reminding us that it took a leader, a Moses, to bring a united people into freedom and deliverance from Israel's oppressors.

Where is such a Moses now? Let us look for him rather than listen to the siren songs of the many self-appointed mis-leaders, both in the U.S. and in Israel, who, out of hatred or fear, counsel the State of Israel to act not as her people think it

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best but as her "overseers" dictate. The freedom won after the Exodus from Egypt include the freedom from fear and the freedom to act with courage instead.

Let us take comfort this historic Passover season in the assurance contained in the Hagadda that although "in every generation there are those who rise against us to eradicate us, the Holy One, blessed be He, rescues us from their hands..."

And so shall it be this time, too. Amen.

GENEVA (JTA) — The Palestine Liberation Organization is spreading the word that it will have nothing to do with the American peace initiative in the Middle East initiated by Secretary of State George Shultz.

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

(Continued from page 1)

cited the work of Father Bruno Hussar, one of the original founders of NS/WAS. They stated that awarding the prize to NS/WAS would "spread his (Father Hussar's) message of cooperation and coexistence in justice and peace... to the world."

Former American Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis, a member of NS/WAS Advisory Board, praised the organization and its unique School for Peace, which brings together young Jewish and Arab high school students for special educational training classes and seminars. He stated "seeing these children gives anyone here a sense that the next generation of Arabs and Jews in Israel will be a better generation."

Jesse Zel Lurie, co-chair of American Friends of NS/WAS, added that the School for Peace "serves as a symbol of how the larger political questions might be solved. If these kids can talk together and settle their differences, adults should be able to follow their example."

NS/WAS was founded in 1975. It has 70 Jewish and Palestinian Israeli residents, in approximately equal numbers. The village receives support from a number of organizations, including major support from the New Israel Fund, a partnership of Israelis and North American Jews dedicated to social justice and the democratic process in Israel.