

# ADL BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH, SEPTEMBER, 1967



**T**HE six-day war began on June 5. It was, Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban said after it was over, the only war in history "where the victors sued for peace and the vanquished demanded unconditional surrender."

Israel's victory proved, wrote Leo Rosten in *Look* magazine, "that God is liable to be on the side of people who fight for their freedom, their honor, their children and their lives—even if such people are pig-headed enough to fight entirely alone."

The astounding victory of the Israeli military forces, the United Nations debates and the rhetoric and invective stemming from them, have been reported by the nation's news media. This issue of the *ADL Bulletin* provides a different kind of information—attitudes and reactions, both friendly and opposed, gathered in depth by the Anti-Defamation League in order to interpret and counteract attempts to stir up anti-Semitism and divide the American people.

## **Arab Propagandists in U. S.** *Old Cries, New Slant*

THE MIDDLE EAST crisis provided Arab propagandists and sympathizers in the United States with an unparalleled opportunity—which they seized upon—to rouse American public feeling against Zionism, the "criminal" existence of Israel, and the alleged influence of Jews on American opinion. The activities of such groups as the Palestine Arab Delegation (which despite its name has no official standing at the United Nations), the Action Committee On American-Arab Relations, the American Friends Of The Middle East, and Arab students in the United States, offered no surprises to ADL which has countered their anti-Israel, anti-Jewish, and anti-American comment time and time again.

These were their basic propaganda

## **Now the Battle of Words . . .**

themes: that the State of Israel is "illegal," is founded on aggression, and that Israel, rather than the Arabs, has been waging a "criminal war of aggression" in the Middle East for the last 20 years; that Jews now living in Israel should be sent back to the countries from which they came; that American news media are Zionist-controlled; that American Jews have "dual loyalty" between the United States and Israel, an attitude which makes them unworthy of the trust and confi-

***The miracle military victory is over. ADL examines varying attitudes and reactions in order to interpret and counteract attempts to stir up anti-Semitism.***

dence of their non-Jewish fellow-citizens, especially with respect to American policy in the Middle East.

The Palestine Arab Delegation and the Arab Higher Committee for Palestine, through their representatives, Issa Nakhleh and Omar Azouni, condemned the Israelis as "international Zionist thugs," attacked U.N. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg as an "accessory" to Israel's "crimes," called upon President Johnson to reject American support of territorial "conquest" by the "international military gang in Tel Aviv," and charged that the Israelis shot 3,000 Arabs in the Gaza Strip "in cold blood . . . looted homes, violated young women and assaulted and humiliated the population."

The Action Committee on American-Arab Relations, headed by Mohammad T. Mehdi, had what it called a "peace march" on Washington the same day Jewish groups, including ADL participants from across the country, held a rally in the capitol. Some of the Mehdi group of about 200 marchers (not all Arabs), charged and protested a "Zionist conspiracy" to take over the United States. Mehdi himself, in newspaper stories, accused the Anti-Defamation League of trying to impose "thought control" by monitoring radio broadcasts for anti-Semitism. (The League's "monitoring" consists of listening to the radio—especially to talk shows which seem to attract a quotient of misguided telephoners—not to censor but to gauge public opinion and to expose extremists.)

The American Friends of the Middle East sent two telegrams to President Johnson—one demanding that the United States "support the Indian resolution in the U.N. asking for a return to the *status ante bellum* and stop Israeli aggression by any measures necessary"; the other decrying alleged U.S. "inaction" and lack of clarification on the question of territorial integrity. Failure to act on the issue, the second telegram said, would "irreparably damage U.S. credibility and influence within (the) Arab world."

Arab students here (their role as "soldiers of the homeland stationed on American college campuses" was reported in the December, 1966, issue of the *ADL Bulletin*) parroted the Arab line that Egypt was within its legal rights in blocking the Gulf of Aqaba to Israeli shipping; that the State of Israel was "illegal"; and that Israel was the aggressor. They also criticized the American press for "biased" and "distorted" reporting.

A sampling of Arab student activity included the following:

— At the University of Minnesota, Arab students in a paid advertisement in the school's *Minnesota Daily* charged that the Israeli government was "an aggressive, imperialist regime" and paradoxically argued that "the so-called 'terrorist' attacks that Israel has used as justification for its raids into Syria and Jordan, are simply the manifestation of the will of the people who have been persecuted, deprived of the right of self-determination, massacred, and crushed."

The audience at a meeting called by the University's Arab-American Club, heard a Lebanese student charge that the "very existence of Israel was based on aggression" and an Iraqi student claim that "only the United States says the Gulf (of Aqaba) is international waters." According to the latter, "the U.S. will learn it cannot dictate anymore, especially to Arabs."

— On the West Coast, the Organization of Arab Students circulated a flyer prior to the outbreak of fighting which declared that the Arabs "can and will employ force to regain their rights."

— At the University of Redlands, California, Arab students at an open meeting of the school's Student Union charged that the crisis had been brought about by the international Zionist movement and contended that the single solution to "the problem of Israel" was the dispersal of the Jews now in Israel to the countries from which they came and the restoration of "expelled" Arabs to the land rightfully theirs.

Among students addressing the gathering was a brother of King Faisal. Attempting to

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Arnold Forster, ADL general counsel, and Benjamin R. Epstein, national director, at Gulf of Aqaba.



Among ADL leaders at Washington Rally for Israel: Mrs. Florence R. Reizenstein, vice-chairman, Pittsburgh, Pa., advisory board; Louis J. Reizenstein.

# Comment:

## "The Miracle"

by Benjamin R. Epstein

**I** WRITE this from Jerusalem, called *Yerushaliem*, Foundation of Peace.

It is July and there is peace in Jerusalem, an uneasy and watchful peace, but *Am Yisrael Chai*—the people of Israel live.

They speak with joy about "the miracle" of winning the war, and with sadness about what war brings. There are no unknown soldiers in Israel. The population is close-knit. Every family has either suffered a loss or knows someone who did.

Arnold Forster and I are here to attend the annual meeting of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) and to observe the situation in Israel at first hand. Arnold is meeting with and interviewing Israeli army and government officials. He is also interviewing Arabs. The series of taped interviews will be broadcast over radio stations in the United States after our return.

The COJO meeting, held for the first time in Jerusalem, has drawn the largest attendance in its ten-year history. Under the co-chairmanship of Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, and William A. Wexler, president of B'nai B'rith, representatives of Jewish communities throughout the world are gathered to discuss problems of mutual concern.

It is impossible to convey the spirit of excitement and warmth that greets all visitors to Israel this summer. The people are deeply appreciative of the financial aid and unified support that came from Jews—and Gentiles—all over the world, and are proud, so very proud of their own accomplishments.

They are proud of men like the taxi driver who took us from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Over 50, and recently returned from fighting, he explained why he had gone: "Everybody did. I took my taxi and went right to the front."

This was truly a citizens' army. The response to the call-up was amazing. In some cities, 107 percent and 112 percent reported for duty—those over 50 years of age and not expected to serve went anyway.

We are amazed at the magnitude of the Israeli accomplishment as we look at Russian-made tanks and military equipment along Jordanian roads, at hundreds of bunkers, each large enough to conceal a tank or truck, in the Syrian hills. We are amazed, too, at the almost comic errors made by the Arabs and their Soviet suppliers. There are Russian boots dotting the

scene, left behind, too heavy for the Arabs to wear. They ran off barefooted.

We are impressed by the peaceful intermingling of Arab and Israeli in the Old City of Jerusalem and the freedom of movement everywhere. Arabs have flocked into the New City. Israelis and Arabs who haven't seen each other in 19 years meet like old, lost friends.

In sharp contrast, Arab refugees in the Gaza Strip, held within the territory as virtual prisoners by the Egyptians in charge, are hostile. All essential services—water, electricity, etc.—have been restored by the Israelis. In the city of Gaza, Israelis are loading buses full of Arab citizens who wish to visit their families in Jordan. It will be the first time since 1948 that they have been allowed out of the area.

The problems created by the new situation are staggering. If Israel keeps some of the territories, the Arabs will have to be incorporated into the economy. There will be labor problems. The Arabs can be absorbed only into agriculture or as unskilled workers.

WHILE HERE we have visited with the group of ten ADL staff members attending a six-week B'nai B'rith seminar. We attended and addressed the convention of 135 B'nai B'rith lodges in Israel.

At home, ADL's 28 regional offices, using League reports, surveys and analyses, are acting as information centers for Jews and non-Jews in their areas. There are those reports on which this issue of the *ADL Bulletin* is based; there are press surveys and fact sheets on the background of the conflict and all aspects of it, including the plight of Jews in Arab lands and that of the Arab refugees. The great wealth of in-depth materials prepared by the League are not only invaluable to the community at large, but to the work of the agency itself in striving to improve intergroup relations, in keeping constant vigilance against anti-Semitism.

I AM an American Jew in Israel filled with admiration for what this tiny nation has accomplished, filled with emotion at the significance of Jewish peoplehood. Our visit to the Wailing Wall was the emotional experience of a lifetime.

We are a people. What happens to us in any part of the world happens to all of us everywhere. This is the lesson the harsh facts of history have taught.

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place the blame for Arab cooperation with the Soviet Union on the U.S., he said Egypt accepted economic and military assistance from Communist Russia because "the U.S. didn't give help" and added that the aim of the Arab world is "to free the U.S. from Zionist pressures that could lead to World War III."

— An Arab student at the University of Arizona, interviewed by the *Tucson Daily Citizen*, was quoted as saying that the U.S. government had "imperialistically" supported the "illegal" government of Israel, that the conflict was "a war of liberation," and that "It is not a matter of winning a battle or losing a war. Arabs have only to win once. That's the end of it. Our land will one day be ours again."

— The president of the New York University chapter of the Organization Of Arab Students criticized American news media for giving "very biased reporting of the news." Members of the group planned to join the pro-Arab "peace" marchers in Washington.

### Arab Sympathizers Hate Groups Jump In

IN CONNECTICUT, an anti-Semitic tract signed "Chairman, Danbury Chapter, American-Arabian Friendship Association" was left on the windshields of hundreds of cars parked in shopping centers. It warned "Christians in this country" against "organized Jewry," called the Israeli government "an illegal dictatorship," and declared that "we have been going from one war to another at the Jews' demand."

The tract was also mailed to members of the Fairfield Friends of Rhodesian Independence with a copy of a pamphlet, *Zionist Leaders Conspire to Railroad the United States Into A Third World War*, published by the Palestine Arab Delegation in New York, the propaganda voice for the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem (See page 7). The Fairfield Friends of Rhodesian Independence, which advocates apartheid, uses the same Fairfield Post Office box number as two Birch Society front groups—TACT (Truth About Civil Turmoil) and Support Your Local Police.

In Astoria, Queens, N.Y., mimeographed notices attached to telephone poles urged "black people" to "support your brothers and sisters of Egypt. Stop buying from stores run by Jews . . ." The notices were signed "R.A.M.—The Black Guards." Leaders of the extremist Negro group were arrested several days later, accused of plotting the assassination of such Negro leaders as Roy Wilkins.

The June issue of *The Thunderbolt*, organ of the anti-Semitic and racist National States Rights Party, sought to prove that Israel and the Soviet Union had made a secret agreement to lure the United States into fighting the Arabs in order to expand Israel's boundaries and to force the Arabs "into the hands of the Communists." The issue, published before the

fighting began in the Middle East, expressed confidence that Israel would not enter a war unless she were given a commitment that American soldiers would do the fighting for her. *The Thunderbolt* also announced that it was rushing to press a pamphlet entitled *Jewish Crimes and Atrocities Against the Arab People*.

The charge of Israeli-Soviet collaboration was made too by Gerald Smith, longtime anti-Semitic propagandist. In a letter to his Christian Nationalist Crusade followers dated June 17, he described the alleged plot as "a secret agreement between the Communists in Russia and the Communists in Israel."

Smith also played upon the religious dedication of his constituents. His newsletter carried the following:

"Crucifixion Begins . . . Jews Capture Jerusalem . . . Holy Shrines Desecrated . . . God Save The Christian World."

Western Front, formed late in 1965 by individuals close to Smith, was among distributors of the Palestine Arab Delegation's pamphlet *Zionist Leaders Conspire to Railroad the United States . . .*

Richard Cotten, anti-Semitic KTYM (Bakersfield, Cal.) radio broadcaster,

delivering a speech in Minneapolis, Minn., recommended the pamphlet and said:

"I look forward to the stolen republic of Israel being returned to the Arabs and the Israelis being driven into the sea."

James K. Warner, head of the blatantly anti-Semitic Sons of Liberty, distributed copies of his *Action Magazine* at a Western Front meeting in Los Angeles. The magazine's cover bore a picture of the Grand Mufti with the headline: "Liberate Jew-Occupied Palestine."

The National States Rights Party's *Personal Newsletter* charged "U.S. Jews Behind Israel's Crimes." Editor Edward Fields, asserting that "Jews Murder American Boys . . ."; that the "super-rich American Jewry controls our government, the State Department, C.I.A., FBI, politicians, wire services, TV, movies, National Council of Churches, and tax free foundations . . ."; that "the vicious, sneering Jew Goldberg is Israel's man running the United States Government . . .," urged "all other right wing groups who may now live in fear of the Jews" to join with the NSRP in a "new crusade" against "Jew domination." Fields appealed



Prime Minister Levi Eshkol at Western Wall.



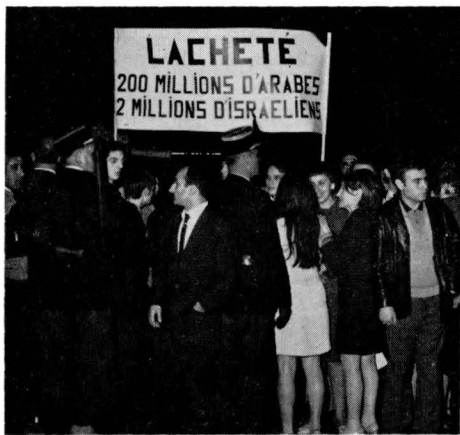
Jubilant soldiers gave thanks.



Arab relatives, together again after 20 years.



Arab Mayor of West Bank city greets Dayan.



European demonstrations of sympathy for Israel: A rally in Paris (L.). Sign says: "Cowardice. 200 million Arabs. 2 million Israelis." In Munich (R.): "Peace and Security for Israel." "The people of Israel want to live in peace."

Flying free.

for increased funds and more meetings.

George Rockwell, head of the American Nazi Party, tacked his evaluation of the situation to the end of his June *Rockwell Report*. Wrote Rockwell:

"... watch the Jew-dominated United States Government clobber the Arabs if Israel is really in danger, even if we have to fight a third world war to save these trouble-making Jews . . ."

### **Radical Right Exploits Situation**

*New Peg For Criticizing U. S. and U. N.*

THE MIDDLE EAST conflict gave Radical Right groups a new peg for attacking favorite targets—the administration in Washington, the State Department, U.S. foreign policy and the United Nations.

Robert Welch, in the July issue of the *Birch Society Bulletin*, handled the subject cautiously, claiming that he didn't know what was going on in the Middle East and wished that he did. He nevertheless drew comparisons from recent history and reached some conclusions.

Recalling the Hungarian Revolt of 1956, which he described as being "deliberately planned and precipitated by Moscow's agents" to lure the underground anti-Communist resistance into the open and destroy it, Welch said it was at least a year before some of the other important Communist purposes in Hungary became entirely clear.

"This time, in the Middle East," he said, "we again have a Communist-plotted and carefully stage-managed military flare-up for at least some purposes which we may not be able to decipher and understand for another year or two . . . For there never was an occupation in which hindsight more emphatically surpassed foresight than in trying to separate pretenses from realities in the maneuvers of the Washington-Moscow axis."

According to Welch, "the intentions of the Communists in bringing about

this capsule war, as shown by their actual accomplishments already," include:

"(1) To divert the attention of the American people . . . from the horror of the far bigger mess in Vietnam; (2) to give the American people the transiently happy feeling that we had somehow come out on the victorious side of some encounter with the Communists; (3) to supply an excuse for the Soviet Premier, Kosygin, to come to this country and engage in a tremendously publicized performance of fraternizing with our President and being treated royally by our government—without any advance notice or warning which would permit opposition to the visit to be aroused; (4) to further advance the most deceptive and dangerous fraud of our time, that there is a real split between the Soviets and the Red Chinese and that the Soviets are 'good Communists' who would really like to be our friends; and (5) to enhance the prestige of, and get the American people to pay more attention to, the United Nations, in preparation for its more vital and tyrannical role as a 'peacemaker' in the years ahead."

Articles and analyses in two Birchite magazines, *American Opinion* and *The Review Of The News*, were hostile in tone toward Israel itself and critical of the last 20 years of American policy in the area. *American Opinion* said Israel is 70 to 80 percent under Communist influence and described Prime Minister Levi Eshkol as a "Russian-born Socialist" who had aided "Moscow's tactics" by attacking anti-Communist and pro-Western Jordan. While the Birchite organs tended to view some leading Arab states as Soviet puppets, they appeared to feel that the Arabs were driven into the arms of the Kremlin by U.S. policies.

After Israel's military victory, the *Review Of The News* declared:

"If U.S. policy in the Middle East has been a failure in the past, it is catastrophic at present. The entire Arab world

has been alienated. If Arab friendship and oil has a substantial meaning to the United States, we had better prepare for some major adjustments."

The Jewish Society of Americanists, formed by Birchers early in 1966, (*ADL's Report On The John Birch Society 1966* had charged the Society with contributing to anti-Semitism) took a somewhat different position from that set forth by Welch and the Birchite magazines. The J.S.A. strongly endorsed Israel's victory over the Arabs and supported Israel's "stated intention" to maintain "the territorial fruits of victory" until the Arabs agreed to direct negotiations for a Middle East settlement. The group called Israel's victory a rebuff to Communism and as a token of its support, announced that it was purchasing an Israel Defense Bond.

Non-Birch Radical Right spokesmen and organs, such as Dr. Fred Schwarz of the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, Dan Smoot, Let Freedom Ring, and H. L. Hunt's *Life Lines*, also targeted their propaganda at U.S. foreign policy and the U.N. Dan Smoot blamed President Eisenhower's promises to Israel in 1957 for bringing the U.S. to "the verge of war in the Middle East." He added:

"Our foreign policy has us so trapped and committed that our enemies can involve us in war, to be fought on their terms, anywhere on earth . . . When we have fully dissipated our strength in the wars they arrange for us, their stooges in the United States can take control."

A few Radical Rightists, Rev. Carl McIntire among them, saw Israel's victory as a fulfillment of Biblical prophecy.

### **Radical Left**

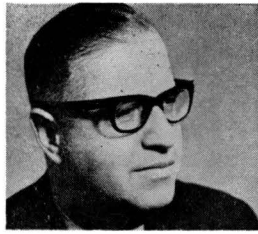
*The Moscow Line*

THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S official line was given by Gus Hall, General Secretary, in a statement in *The Worker*:

"The struggle is between the people of the Arab countries fighting to control a



Israeli tanks.



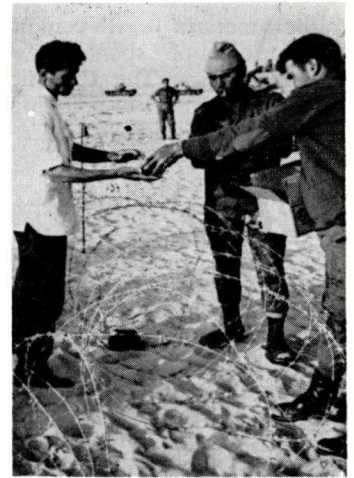
Abba Eban



Army volunteers return.



Dayan visits Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the Old City.



Feeding Egyptian POW's.

natural resource that is theirs and the capitalist oil monopolies of the U.S.A., Great Britain and France . . . The governments of Great Britain and the U.S. are direct representatives of the thieves, and the present government of Israel is a willing accomplice and accessory . . . The leaders of government and sections of the ruling financial circles of Israel are very much responsible for the present crisis in the Middle East; the king vulture is imperialism, but these circles in Israel have become the willing tools of imperialism . . . The CIA has headquarters, schools, centers of its Middle East conspiracy—on the soil of Israel . . .”

Following the Egyptian troop concentrations in the Sinai and the blockade of the Gulf of Aqaba, *The Worker* blamed the ensuing crisis on Washington’s “imperialist designs.” It charged Israel was being used as a tool to overthrow the “democratic” governments of Syria and the United Arab Republic. After fighting broke out, *The Worker* said the war had been brought about by the “imperialist oil vultures” who were using Israel as their pawn. The war, it said, was brought about by Israeli aggression and must be settled by Israel’s withdrawal to her pre-war boundaries—and by the expulsion of the “only real alien force there—the oil vultures of the West.”

Other Far Left statements included those of Deirdre Griswold, a leader of the Youth Against War and Fascism and an Ad Hoc Conference Committee on the Middle East. The latter group sponsored a rally in New York to “Organize Against U.S.-Israeli Agression in the Middle East.” In her comments, Miss Griswold declared that “Israel is acting as a pawn of Western interests. Our people, with their sympathies, are for the Arab revolution. Israel is artificial.”

The *National Guardian*, in an article written by Irving Beinin, said Israel has always followed a policy of “escalation of nationalist, anti-Arab sentiment, glorifi-

cation of the Jewish military and reliance on might to establish Jewish hegemony.” According to Beinin, Israel politics should have shifted to the left and a “closer relationship of Jewish national aspirations and those of the surrounding Arab nations. Such a course would have implied an anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist thrust in Israeli policy.”

### “Doves” and “Hawks” Middle East Compared With Far East

EDITORIAL WRITERS and newspaper columnists drew comparisons between the Arab-Israeli conflict and the one in Vietnam. Some charged that the “doves” on Vietnam had emerged as “hawks” on the Middle East. A substantial number of editorialists, however, rejected the “dove-hawk” analysis pointing out that the two conflicts could not be compared. Therefore, they said, they saw no inconsistency on the part of citizens urging U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam and intervention, if necessary, in the Middle East.

While the question was far less important than some of the other issues raised, it was significant for the American Jewish community because in some of the published comments Jews were singled out as a group and described as being among those caught up in the alleged “dove-hawk” contradiction.

Comments included these:  
— Conservative publisher William Loeb, in a signed editorial in the *Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader*: “Suddenly . . . many of the clergymen, professors, civil rights leaders, etc., who were ‘chickens’ over the Vietnam war, suddenly sounded like ‘eagles’ with their vociferous demands that the United States go to the defense of Israel . . . The question is now, will these individuals continue as hyphenated chickens—half eagle, half chicken—or will they admit to their hypocrisy, do penance and become all eagle?”  
— Syndicated columnist William F. Buckley Jr.: “Who else but Israel could have turned our doviest doves into tiger sharks?”  
— An editorial in the *Columbia (S.C.) State*

cited the support expressed by the New York Committee To End The War In Vietnam for Capt. Howard Levy, the Army physician who refused to give medical training to members of the Green Berets: “. . . we wonder if they would likewise admire such a refusal . . . if U.S. forces were dispatched to the defense of Israel instead of South Vietnam.”

— An article, “The Jewish Vote” by Alan L. Otten, in *The Wall Street Journal*: “. . . the Jews have been among the most dovish about the war in Vietnam. Administration men have almost maliciously enjoyed the way the Mideast crisis has dulled some of this Jewish dissent. . .”

— Syndicated columnist Mary McGrory: “. . . the new crisis has brought no better understanding of the old on the part of the Jewish community, whose members, however much they might welcome a show of force in Israel, are adamant in their opposition to force in Vietnam.”

— Emmet John Hughes in *Newsweek*: “The Administration apologists argued that any citizen calling for U.S. action to support a political commitment in the Middle East had to recognize the same obligations as binding in the Far East. But the historic natures of the two conflicts bear as much similarity, of course, as sand and jungle. . .”

— An editorial in the liberal magazine *The Nation*: “Nothing could be clearer than the unlikeness of the situations in the Middle East and Southeast Asia . . . To run out on the issues in Vietnam . . . as a *quid pro quo* to induce the Johnson Administration to take stronger action in the Middle East, would be morally despicable and politically stupid. . .”

— Clayton Fritchey in his syndicated column: “Not all the critics of the Vietnam policy are doves. Many have been against the U.S. intervention there for purely practical reasons . . . Hence there is nothing inconsistent in these critics now appealing for a firm U.S. stand in the Middle East crisis.”

### The Christian Religious Community Sympathy and Misunderstanding

THE CATHOLIC PRESS was generally sympathetic toward Israel but tended to treat the issues as being of purely international concern and therefore unrelated to Catholic-Jewish relations in the United States. It was obvious that many editors did not comprehend either the importance of the situation in the Middle East

to the American Jewish community or its expectations of spontaneous response from Catholics. The Catholic religious community tended to concentrate on the political aspect of the conflict and to shy away from taking sides.

Comments included these:

— *Commonweal*: "... the long-term outlook for Israel is depressing . . . it calls in doubt the wisdom of the Zionist solution for the difficulties of the Jewish people. How much better it would have been if Britain and the United States had absorbed all of these Jewish refugees after World War II . . . (they) would be safer living in Britain and the United States than they are now . . ."

"For better or worse they (the Jews) have irrevocably opted for nationhood with all its mysticism, pain, glory, and terrible danger. . ."

— *America*: "... No one could have watched and listened to the parade of speakers at the special session of the UN General Assembly in recent weeks and not realized that the plight of the Middle East's million refugees is at the heart of the problem. . ."

On Jerusalem the publication said "given the international character of Jerusalem, internationalization is perhaps the most logical solution to a problem that is of concern to so much of the world outside Israel's borders. On the other hand, Israel's record over the last 20 years in providing free access to its Christian shrines has been commendable. If free access is the issue, then we cannot help wondering if the case for internationalization is as urgent as it appeared to be in 1947."

— *Pilot*: In an editorial entitled "So Much To Learn," said:

"Several prominent American rabbis have strongly criticized the Christian community in the United States . . . They felt that there should have been a stronger expression of solidarity from the churches supporting the position of Israel, and that such action would have comforted the Jewish community in the United States. The points raised by the rabbis are undoubtedly well taken. . ."

"At the same time, there is some explanation for the fact that so few Christian leaders felt that a public statement was required of them. The state of Israel has been accepted by the world as a political fact, politically recognized and politically assisted. Most Christians are only now beginning to understand how, for Jews everywhere, the calls of Nasser for the extermination of the citizens of Israel were reminiscent of the Nazi pogroms. . . What most people judged as idle boasting, Jews were able to see as the beginning of a new annihilation . . . We truly did not know well enough the fear that, quite understandably, gripped Jews across the world . . . We have only begun during these last years to know each other, Jews and Christians, only began the dialogue of friendship that can be so productive. . ."

— Rev. John B. Sheerin, CSP, editor, *The Catholic World*: The failure of Christians to support Israel when she was threatened by the Nasser regime points to the fact that "... the essential concept of Jewish peoplehood . . . should be a primary issue on the agenda for dialogue . . . Matters such as anti-Semitism in textbooks, Jewish fears of conversion, the question of Jewish guilt for the Crucifixion—all these are important—but we must first know who the Jews are before we can discuss with them those other topics."

Protestant reaction generally recognized the legitimacy of Israel's existence, freedom and integrity, but was not completely behind Israel's position in the current con-

flict. There was a great deal of ambivalence and some outright hostility. The Protestant stand, for the most part, was that their religious community has a universal concern for compassion, justice and freedom and therefore could be neither pro-Arab nor pro-Israeli.

*The Christian Century*, the outstanding champion of the Protestant fight on anti-Semitism in America and protagonist of Christian-Jewish cooperation and understanding, editorialized that "the color of the truth about the crisis in the Middle East is gray—not black and white."

Protestants showed great difficulty in understanding the bond that American Jews have for Jews in Israel. They were surprised at the American Jewish response. Too, the missionary interests of 150 years of Protestant work and accomplishment in the Middle East among Christian and Moslem Arabs is a link with the Arab world which many American Christians did not want to endanger.

Comments included the following:

— *Christianity Today*: "... Despite the present hatred between Jew and Arab, the Scriptures prophesy a time when both Egypt and the region known as Assyria in Old Testament times will turn in faith to the Jehovah of the Old Testament Scriptures and be at peace with each other. . ."

— Dr. Edwin Espy, general secretary of the National Council of Churches: "... our hearts are filled with compassion and concern for the people of Israel and of all the Middle East. Our identification is not exclusively with any one community, one belligerent, or one set of national aspirations. We aspire to the identification of man with man, heart with heart. . ."

— *Concern*, the Methodist Social Action magazine, ran side-by-side articles—"Today's Jews Have No Right To Palestine" by Mohammed T. Mehdi; "Where Were The Christians" by Rabbi Balfour Brickner.

In a column of comment on the crisis, *Concern* said: "Christians and Jews in the United States have a very serious obligation to reject the Biblical literalism that lies behind political Zionism and to expect Israel to develop into a secular state in which Jews, Moslems and Christians will have full religious liberty . . ."

— *Christianity and Crisis*: "... Christians have no warrant for pontification to either Jews or Moslems about peace in the Middle East. We must not repeat the solemn foolishness of former UN Ambassador Warren Austin, who urged Israel and Egypt to settle their differences 'in a spirit of Christian charity' . . . new provisions must now be advanced for international authority. Jerusalem is holy to Moslems and Christians as well as to Jews . . ."



Far Left, Gus Hall; Far Right, Robert Welch.

## The World and the Conflict International Reactions Varied

THE BONN GOVERNMENT officially confined itself to declarations of neutrality, which writer Guenter Grass protested as being virtually a "declaration of sympathy for the Arab nations." But most Germans showed sympathy for Israel's cause—in Munich, Berlin and elsewhere, citizens demonstrated for Israel. The Bonn government viewed the German response as an important indication of waning anti-Semitism in West Germany.

German press reaction included:

— The Bonn *General-Anzeiger*: "The first shot seems to have been fired from the Israeli side. But it would be just too convenient to burden the slim shoulders of the Israelis with guilt for the war . . . the Jews were cold-bloodedly maneuvered by the Arabs into a position which left the Israelis only two alternatives: to capitulate or to defend themselves."

— *Frankfurter Rundschau*: "The Israeli soldiers have not only protected their fatherland; they have simultaneously saved the United States from terrible blame, probably rescued the United Nations, and knocked the Arabian card out of the hands of the Soviets before they could really play it."

— *Rheinischer Merkur*: "... The failure of the United Nations, and the feeling of the United States of having been left in the lurch, will simultaneously lend fuel to the development of neutralism in Europe and to isolation in the United States."

The publication, often considered pro-French, sharply criticized General deGaulle. It also compared Nasser with Hitler and pointed out that when Nasser threatened the Jewish people with annihilation he was threatening people who were born in Germany.

"The existence of the State of Israel is directly bound up with the darkest period in our history . . . the hearts and prayers of all Germans who are ashamed of Hitler are with the courageous band of Israelis . . ."

— The right-wing newspaper *Deutsche National und Soldaten Zeitung* likened Moshe Dayan to Hitler in a front page article headlined "Israel's Auschwitz In The Desert—The Mass Murder Of The Arabs—Dayan In Hitler's Tracks." The Civil Court of Munich ordered confiscation of the newspaper. (An article, "Echoes Of The Nazi Past," March, 1966, *ADL Bulletin*, described the *Zeitung's* fulminations against Israel and Jews generally. Several months after its publication, the *Zeitung* attacked the Anti-Defamation League in an article illustrated with the *ADL Bulletin's* front page.)

— *Der Spiegel* carried a seven-page cover story on the Middle East under the heading "Blitz Campaign," and an editorial entitled "Israel Shall Live."

— *Deutsche Nachrichten*, official organ of the Neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (N.P.D.), demanded that the Bonn government remain neutral in the conflict because in a confrontation of the world powers (meaning the U.S. and Soviet Russia) which would result from an extension of the conflict, Germany would become the victim.

The Communist countries, with the exception of Rumania, supported the Arabs with a varying degree of vehemence. There was, too, a significant deterioration of the position of Jews not only in Russia but also in Eastern Europe.

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# The Grand Mufti and His Friends

by Sid Goldberg



Grand Mufti.

Egyptians into a declaration of war. And so strong was the pro-Nazi sentiment in Egypt that when Premier Ahmed Maher did declare war—on February 24, 1945—he was assassinated while reading the Royal Decree.

Arab fighting during World War II was on the side of the Nazis. Several thousand Arab volunteers were mobilized into Nazi units by the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Hitler's man in the Middle East. The Mufti, (Haj Amin El-Husseini), who operated out of Berlin from 1941 to 1945, organized his pro-Nazi Arabs into sabotage squads, espionage cells and a fighting unit called the Arab Legion.

The Mufti also helped organize the Moslems of Bosnia and other Balkan areas into special SS Units called "The Black Legions." He praised them as the "cream of Islam" and they were dispatched to the Eastern front in the Caucasus to stir Soviet Moslems into an anti-Communist crusade. Some 3,000 of these Mufti troops were held prisoners of war as late as 1946 in Camp Opelika, Alabama.

The Grand Mufti was among the most popular Arab leaders before, during and after the war. So effective was his hate-sputtering oratory that few if any Arab leaders dared oppose him. As spiritual and political leader of the Palestine Arabs he had learned to hate Jews in the '20's and '30's as their numbers increased in the land of Zion.

Now 71 and last reported—in March of this year—to be in Old Jerusalem, the Mufti had been Hitler's chief advisor on Arab affairs and the friend and confidante of Adolf Eichmann.

Gideon Hausner, chief prosecutor at the Eichmann trial in Israel, established that "the Mufti asked Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler to provide him, after the war, when he planned to enter Jerusalem at the head of the axis troops, with a 'special adviser' from Eichmann's department to help him solve the Jewish question in the same way as it had been done in the axis countries. Eichmann offered the job to his assistant, Dieter Wisliceny."

The Grand Mufti spread his anti-Jewish venom throughout the war over radio Berlin. He praised the Germans for "knowing how to get rid of Jews." He urged his Arab listeners to "kill the Jews wherever you find them." He gave the number of Jews "still to be dealt with" (in 1944) as 11 million, representing the Jewish populations of America, Russia and other countries beyond Hitler's reach.

All this would signify no more than the ravings of one madman—except that the Mufti was returned to his role after the war as leader of the Palestine ques-

## *The irony of charging Israel with "Nazism" is revealed in the Arab record before, during, and after World War II.*

ON June 20 President Nureddin El-Atassi of Syria told the United Nations General Assembly that "The Arab people is indeed being subjected today to an operation of extermination surpassing in dimensions what the Nazis did."

The day before, Premier Aleksei N. Kosygin of the Soviet Union told the same group that Israel's behavior "brings to mind the heinous crimes perpetrated by the Fascists during World War II."

Radio Cairo compared Israeli administrators in Gaza to "Nazi Gauleiters." Other Arab and Soviet propaganda mills referred to the "Hitlerite death merchants" of Israel, to "Moshe Dayan's storm troopers," and to what they charged were "Zionist plans for genocide."

The irony, of course, is that thousands of Israelis are the sole survivors of families that vanished in the Nazi furnaces. But doubly ironic is the fact that the Soviet and Arab accusers of Israel stand guilty of their own charges.

It was Soviet Russia that signed a non-aggression pact with Nazi Germany in 1939, a pact which was ultimately broken by Germany, not Russia. Some of the other communist countries which accused Israel of "walking the Hitlerite path" also know that route very well. Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and Slovakia not only were allies of Nazi Germany in World War II but had native Nazi movements that vied in viciousness with the German.

What is less known is the record of the Arabs in World War II. President El-Atassi told the General Assembly, "the Arabs fought in both world wars and

contributed to the liberation of Europe from Nazism and to the realization of allied victory."

THE FACT is that Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon did not declare war on Germany until February, 1945, when the war was little more than a mopping-up operation by the allies. The Arab declarations of war were made in late February because attendance at the forthcoming San Francisco conference, setting up the United Nations, required a declaration of war on Germany no later than March 1.

The only Arab state that played any military role in the war was Transjordan, which declared war on Germany as early as 1939. Transjordan was totally dependent on British grants for its existence, and its army, the Arab Legion, was in effect a part of the British Army, under British officers.

Iraq declared war on Germany in 1943 after it was clear the Nazis were losing. Before that, pro-Nazi sentiment was powerful in Baghdad, and a Nazi puppet government was installed there in 1941 under Rashid Ali, who went so far as to declare war on Britain. Rashid Ali received congratulations from Arab leaders in Egypt (including King Farouk), Lebanon, and Syria. The latter permitted German bombers and transports to land on its fields while the Nazi regime lasted in Baghdad.

The whole temper of the Arab world before and during World War II was neutralist at best, pro-Nazi at worst. When Italian troops in August, 1940, invaded Egyptian territory, Egypt did not consider this a cause for war. The fighting was left to the British. Even General Erwin Rommel's invasion of Egypt, in May, 1941, couldn't nudge the

tion. He directed policy from a lavish and fortified home in Cairo and, as one of the Arab delegates to the United Nations in 1947 said, "the Mufti is the irrefutable leader of the Holy Land Arabs."

TO THIS DAY none of the Arab leaders has repudiated the Grand Mufti, or his pro-Nazi assistants who worked with him in Berlin during the war.

Nor is this tolerance of a Nazi in their midst surprising. Egypt, the chief victim of the "Hitlerite" Israelis, has given sanctuary to hundreds of former Nazis, among them up to 100 of Hitler's rocket and missile experts.

Also in Egypt, according to the latest information from the Anti-Defamation League, are the following:

—Colonel Naam Al-Nashar, formerly Leopold Gleim, who was head of German security in Poland. He arrived in Egypt in 1955 and organized the Egyptian security service along Nazi lines.

—Lt. Col. Ben Sala, formerly Bernard Bender, a storm trooper still on the Polish list of war criminals. He is head of the Jewish Department of the Egyptian security service.

—Hassan Soliman, formerly Heinrich Sellmann, wanted by West Germany for crimes committed while he was Gestapo chief in Ulm. He now holds a senior position in the Secret Police in Cairo.

—Col. Ahim Fahumi, formerly Dr. Heinrich Willermann, wanted by West Germany for sterilization experiments he conducted in several Nazi concentration camps. He now runs the Egyptian political prison at Samara, near Alexandria.

—Louis Al-Haj, formerly Louis Heiden, director of a Nazi press agency in Berlin. He is now an adviser to President Nasser and it was he who prepared a pocket-sized Arabic translation of *Mein Kampf* for Egyptian officers.

—Ibrahim Mustafa, formerly Joachim Daemling, wanted by West Germany for crimes committed in Dusseldorf while a storm trooper there. He is an adviser to the Cairo police on concentration camps.

—Ali Mohammed, formerly George Brunner, one of Eichmann's assistants, in charge of deportation of Jews from Greece. He now works in the Egyptian propaganda industry.

The list goes on and on. The Arabs, by raising a "Nazi issue," convict only themselves.

IN WORLD WAR II, 1,300,000 Jews were in uniform in the Allied Armies. In Palestine, 85,800 Jewish men and 50,400 Jewish women volunteered for war service; 27,028 Palestine Jews served with the British forces in various Middle East, North African and European fronts, many in the most hazardous missions.

What made a mockery of the United Nations "debate" was that the Communists and Arabs well know their respective roles in World War II. Their statements in the General Assembly would have made Joseph Goebbels proud. Dr. Goebbels, incidentally, was royally welcomed in Cairo on the eve of the war.



Old City synagogue remains after Arab occupation.

## ISRAEL

Continued from page 6

In Poland, Wladyslaw Gomulka, head of the Communist party, combined support for the Soviet position with warnings to Polish Jews who were supporting the Israeli cause. In a speech at the opening of the sixth congress of trade unions, he said: "We do not wish a fifth column to be created in our country." Only in Rumania did the authorities show any understanding for the inevitable sympathy of Jews for the cause of Israel.

One paradoxical result of the breaking off of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel was the resumption by Russia of broadcasts in Yiddish and Hebrew, the first since 1949. The Soviets began on June 17 a daily half-hour broadcast in Yiddish containing Russian allegations of Israeli Nazi-like atrocities. After realizing that most Israelis do not know Yiddish, the broadcasts became partly Yiddish and partly Hebrew.

Most of the Latin American countries declared themselves neutral, while the people and the press demonstrated support for Israel. In the General Assembly of the U.N., however, the Latin American bloc was supportive of Israel in insisting that withdrawal of troops be linked to an end of belligerence.

Seeking to dispel his anti-Semitic image, President Ongania of Argentina endorsed the U.S. position but declared his government's intention to maintain "equidistant" neutrality because of the 450,000 Jews and 700,000 Arabs living in the country. Israeli and Arab embassies and consulates were heavily guarded, as were synagogues and Jewish schools.

Only a few incidents were recorded. A synagogue and a bank in the Cordoba province were damaged by bombs planted by an extremist group called "Mazorca." The home of a Jewish leader who com-



Galilee farmhouse shelled by Syria.

plained to the authorities about the attacks was subsequently bombed. An attempt to run over a policeman guarding a Jewish school was thwarted by a cruising police car. A pro-Arab demonstration by right-wing extremists in front of the Syrian Embassy was dispersed as fights broke out. A leader of Tacuara volunteered to fight for the Arabs and Tacuara distributed leaflets urging others to "fight for the liberation of Palestine occupied by international Zionism."

On the other hand, an Argentine Committee of Support for Beleaguered Israel, composed of Argentinian intellectuals, priests and other distinguished personalities, expressed solidarity with "Israel's just fight" to the Israeli Ambassador.

As in Argentina, consulates and centers of Jewish and Arab concentration in Brazil were heavily guarded. Offers to serve as volunteers received at the Israel Embassy grew to such an extent that the government warned against the loss of Brazilian citizenship. A touching appeal for peace in the Middle East bearing the signatures of more than 3,000 Arabs and Jews, members of the Arab-Jewish Union of Sao Paulo, was submitted to President Costa y Silva with copies sent to the governments of Israel and the UAR, and the United Nations. A similar move was registered in both Parana and Belo Horizonte.

In Chile, the government declared itself "physically neutral but by no means indifferent." Three congressmen from the Government Party in Uruguay offered to volunteer for Israel. In Guatemala, a June 1 resolution by the Senate and the Congress condemned the "illegitimate" blockade of the Tiran Strait as an act of aggression and a violation of human rights. The Presidents of Mexico and Costa Rica jointly appealed to both sides to settle their problems by peaceful means.

## SUPPORT THE 1967 ADL APPEAL

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