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After The Deluge Is Too Late

This week, Eliezer Whartman takes up the cudgels for honesty if not outright sanity in the U.S. Administration, both dangerously lacking in those who direct our collective destiny on this tiny globe. So I leave it in his hands and take up other cudgels. For instance, the young firebrand (I'm being polite today) who spoke from Toronto on CBC's Information Radio Wednesday morning. Wish I'd had the presence of mind to jot his name down but there's neither presence nor mind for me before 8:30 a.m. But in case you didn't catch his act, he gave a glorious example of Arab propagandizing by stating "facts" such as: "The Israelis claim that Jordan is the Palestinian state, but as anyone who knows the history of that area is aware, this is absolutely false . . ." or words to that effect.

There was much more in the same vein, all spoken in a high quick voice reminiscent of the Arabic way of speaking, and then we learned at the end of his spiel that he has lived in the Middle East; i.e. Arab states. Of course the truth is quite the opposite to that which he spouted, but the damage is done as the uninformed, hearing a lie spoken so authoritatively and with such conviction, naturally are going to be convinced. The fact is that the first partition of Palestine took place in 1922 when the then Colonial Secretary Winston Churchill cut away four-fifths of Palestine, some 35,000 square miles, and created a brand new Arab state, Transjordan (now Jordan), installing Abdullah as king, and simultaneously, a promised Jewish National Home which the British took over for the League of Nations Mandate, a much-diminished Jewish National Home but nevertheless one that had to be accepted . . . as better than nothing. However, as we all know now, the men with the carving knife weren't finished and have hacked away incessantly since then.

But that's not what I wanted to write about today. It's the propaganda with which we're being inundated that mainly concerns me, simply because we are not able to compete with the financially satiated Arabs. Their "information service" is armed with unlimited funds so they can buy up the talents of journalists (those who are for sale) or failing that, buy into newspaper or television outlets where they can feed their line into the newscasts, into commentaries or public service broadcasts. It's happened in South America, it's happened in France, and I don't doubt for a minute that it's happened in areas of chronic states of lack of cash. The financially sound, or so I thought, Readers' Digest has made a deal with Arabs to write and publish articles slanted to the Arab viewpoint. Caught in the act, a highly-placed official of Readers' Digest denied they were printing articles, but only advertisements. However, as it was pointed out, the man was not in the sales department. He was in the editorial department, where policy is made.

I hate to be cynical but there's no way I'm going to believe that after the clobbering the oil sheikhs gave the world economies, quadrupling the price of oil, and bringing Europe, Japan, etc. to the brink of ruin, suddenly — as they say in bad novels — everything became crystal clear; suddenly, everyone who uses oil saw the justice of the Arabs' position. Suddenly, with the aid of unlimited funds, the Arabs are succeeding in brainwashing some segments of the free world with their brand of "facts". The character who spoke in strident tones on CBC's Information Radio Wednesday morning, so soon after that meeting which was held by the PLO in Toronto gives rise to questions, in my mind, at least. The propaganda machine is building up momentum in Toronto, has been going full speed in Montreal for some time already, and has yet to break ground in Winnipeg. When it does get here, I would like to think we'd be ready to counter it. The Winnipeg Jewish community should take a leaf from the smaller one in Regina, and begin to gear up for whatever comes, whether it's setting up information centres for students, funds to place ads in the dailies, or a speakers' bureau to address groups in the general community. But whatever is decided, the time to prepare is before, the deluge. Afterwards is too late.

Why Is U.S. Administration Silent?

By ELIEZER WHARTMAN

Jerusalem.
 A lot of people tend to regard the Israel-Arab conflict as simply a regional spat involving two intransigent sides whose interminable quarrelling has become an intolerable nuisance. That dispute has been placed in its proper perspective by Eugene Rostow, Prof. of Law at Yale and former Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs under President Johnson, in a speech delivered recently at the Educational Conference of the League for Industrial Democracy. It is a speech that should be studied by every thinking American and Canadian. The following are some excerpts. (The italics are mine.)

"In the nature of the whole of American interests in the Middle East, which are great, there is no conceivable way in which those interests could be protected and the tide of Soviet imperial advance reversed, unless there were peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Without peace none of the goals of American foreign policy in the area could possibly be achieved.

In September and October 1968 the U.S. assured Egypt that if it would undertake negotiations, as called for by Resolution 242, the U.S. would support the total return to Egypt of the Sinai over a period of time, on condition not only that there be peace, but that the Sinai be completely demilitarized. This offer which had the approval of Israel was rejected by Nasser, despite repeated attempts by Secretary Rusk and others.

Between 1967 and today the issue has not been Israeli intransigence, stubbornness and lack of imagination, as is often said in newspapers and in diplomatic circles. There has been one obstacle — and only one obstacle: Egypt's refusal to negotiate peace.

The Soviets knew this and knew it very well. Instead of urging the Egyptians to comply with the resolution, they went through an immense exercise of preparing Egypt, Syria, Iraq and other countries for war, involving six years of effort, the training of officers and men, billions of dollars worth of supplies, and full preparation for the all-out attack of October 1973.

That attack was a fundamental violation of the charter of the United Nations. There is no way in which that attack can be justified as self defense under international law, and no attempt has been made to do so. The event completely denies the premise of the *detente understandings* which President Nixon had reached with the Soviet Union in May 1972. It was not only an act of perfidy, but of deception on a scale which makes it comparable in every respect to Pearl Harbor.

The October War was a strategic move to outflank Europe, to threaten Europe from the south, to take control of the oil, and to separate us from the Europeans — that is to say, to break up NATO, a step that would lead to the neutralization of Europe. The attack was a fundamental strategic move, striking at the heart of American vital national interests in world politics.

This, I think, the Administration understood, but did not explain to the American people or to anyone else because it would have meant the end of the myth of *detente*. The President would have had to say in effect that he had been deceived by the Soviets, that they had breached their agreement and that the whole course of his foreign policy would have had to be reversed. This he was unwilling to do.

The Administration did act effectively to back up the Israeli armies. It acted with great dispatch in the airlifting of supplies. I think that the Administration erred in two regards: In the first place it failed to state what was afoot. Because it did not want to admit that it had been deceived, I can appreciate why our representative in the UN did not get up and denounce the attack as the

worst aggression since North Korea attacked South Korea. We did not want to make it too difficult for the Soviet Union to back down or make it too difficult for the Egyptians to come around and negotiate. This I consider a profound mistake because this was an issue of the utmost importance. It will be impossible to proceed for long unless foreign policy is backed by an informed and understanding public opinion.

The second mistake, I suggest, is that the President ended the war too soon.

When it became clear that the Arab armies were defeated, and soon would be rolled up in huge pools of prisoners, the Soviet Union asked that Kissinger come to Moscow. Kissinger should never have gone to Moscow. The President should have said that Kissinger is very busy, absorbed with problems not only of the Middle East, but of Indochina. He could have played for three or four more days, during which a more visible victory could have been won.

Of course our overriding interest in weaning away the Egyptians from the Soviets was always on our mind. I believe however, that the politics of the Middle East and the politics of Soviet-American relations would have been more happy auguries if the October war had been allowed to go on for three or four more days. There would have been 80,000 Egyptian prisoners on the television screens of the world. [This would have had a sobering impact on the Arabs as to where their policy had led them, a policy that was encouraged and abetted by the Soviet Union. Instead Kissinger made it appear that it was Soviet pressure that saved the Arabs—EW]

"We did take a fundamentally correct position in October when we said that we would not acquiesce in any cease fire unless it contained the third paragraph of the October resolution. That paragraph is mandatory in form. It is a decision of the United Nations that the parties themselves must negotiate a peace agreement, a fair and durable peace in conformity with the principles and provisions of Resolution 242.

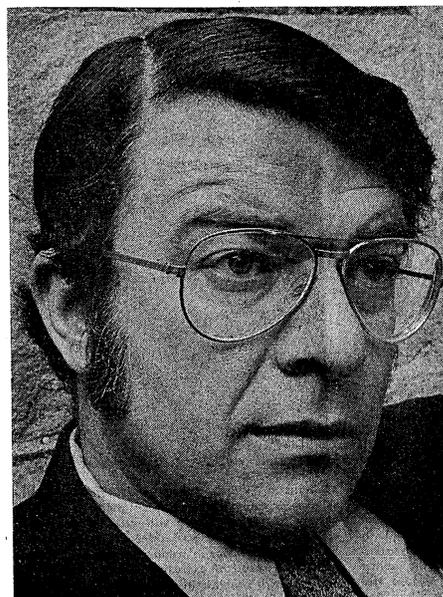
We now find ourselves in a situation in which the Soviet effort, which has been gaining momentum for the last five or six years, is approaching its climax. We misunderstand that campaign at our peril. It is to simply a threat to Israel, painful as that is to contemplate. It is a threat as well to the vital national interests of Europe and the United States which cannot be protected indefinitely by the Israeli armed forces alone."

The errors that Rostow has described are being repeated today. The U.S., unwilling or unable to understand that the Arabs resolutely refuse to negotiate peace, is pressuring its only ally, Israel, which is protecting vital American and European interests, to make concessions which will only endanger its security. Sadat, like his predecessor Nasser, refuses to demilitarize Sinai. But instead of exerting pressure on Egypt, Kissinger is using every weapon at his command to force Israel to yield.

The man, for all his suavity, has been revealed as a naive country bumpkin. (After all, *detente* was more Kissinger's policy than it was Nixon's or Ford's.) He has been taken in by the Russians who, under the cover of *detente*, actively plotted to undermine the American position in Indochina and the Middle East. His foreign policy is a shambles. The U.S. is on the defensive everywhere.

Why doesn't the Administration confess that it has deceived the public? Why doesn't it make a clean breast of the fact that its policy vis a vis the Russians has failed, and that an agonizing reappraisal must be made. (Not only in terms of a "reassessment" of its position in the Middle East but in terms of its overall dealings with the Soviet Union?) Why are we continuing to appease and appease and appease when we should be taking a firm stand? Why is the Administration silent?

Negev Dinner on June 11 Slates Noted Speaker



LEONARD FEIN . . . Distinguished Speaker

Internationally acclaimed author, lecturer and educator Leonard Fein will be guest speaker at the 23rd annual Negev Testimonial Dinner to be held Wednesday, June 11, in Winnipeg's new Convention Centre, it was announced this week by Samuel Bookbinder, president of Jewish National Fund Council of Winnipeg.

The dinner will honor Winnipeg Jewish community leader David S. Kaufman in recognition of his distinguished record of service to his community and Israeli causes.

Dinner chairman Monte Nathanson and sponsors chairman Ron Polinsky reported gratifying community-wide response to the function which will "pay due tribute to one of our distinguished young leaders and present an address by one of North American Jewry's most articulate intellectuals, while supporting the priority needs of the Jewish National Fund during this critical time in Israel's history."

The Negev Dinner will honor Mr. Kaufman by perpetuating his name through a major project to be incorporated in Canada Park, the current undertaking by Jewish National Fund of Canada. The park, which has been assigned a high priority, is being developed half way between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem to serve a population of well over 1,500,000 with badly needed recreational facilities.

Leonard Fein is professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies at Brandeis University. He is also, together with author Elie Wiesel, the founder and editor of the newly launched MOMENT Magazine.

His articles and lectures on Jewish affairs in four continents have led him to be described as "the leading architect of the present Jewish resurgence in America."

CJA Accelerates Hectic Pace



ONE YEAR LATER: Life goes on normally for Ma'alot school children—almost. Their school is ringed by barbed wire and under guard against recurrence of the disaster of May 15, 1974, when Arab terrorists massacred 22 teen-aged hostages. Emotional troubles after the disaster are just beginning to recede, but the great problems of daily existence still weigh heavily on the people of the Village. Ma'alot is one of many development towns in Israel founded by the Jewish Agency with funds from the United Israel Appeal, the major beneficiary of Winnipeg's Combined Jewish Appeal. The tragedy at Ma'alot and four other towns victimized by Arab terrorists last year has focused fresh attention on many critical human needs that must be met to make life in them more bearable.

Winnipeg's Combined Jewish Appeal pressed forward this week under total mobilization aiming at maximum coverage of contributors by the May 30 target date set for canvassers.

Campaign general chairman Sam Galpern reported that the entire campaign organization is maintaining a hectic pace in its all-out effort to reach all contributors by the end of the month.

He announced that the drive was continuing to make substantial progress in coverage of outstanding pledge cards and that the community was responding with the increased levels of giving that were essential to meet the city's responsibilities for global and local Jewish needs.

"There can be no let-up until we have completed the job," he declared. "Together, we can make it."

Mr. Galpern commended the community for its response to date and for co-operating with the drive's volunteer canvassers.

"More than ever before," he said, "we have found that contributors have been ready to make their commitment, on the first call by the canvasser, eliminating the need for callbacks. This is one factor that has speeded up our campaign considerably."

Another factor was the concerted effort made by canvassers during the April 20-26 Week of Commitment when all stops were removed to accelerate eye-to-eye canvassing.

Mr. Galpern forecast that new records would be set when the drive is completed, both in speed of coverage and in levels of giving.

He said every effort has been, anyone has not been approached and will continue to be, made to personally by a canvasser, he is reach every potential contributor asked to phone the campaign in the city. If for any reason office at 943-0408.

NCJW Winnipeg Section 50th Donor Day Luncheon



From left to right: Mrs. Helain Kroft, hostess; Mrs. Ruthie Gale, Section president; Mrs. Rhoda Slutchuk, Donor Day chairman.

The Donor Day Luncheon will take place on June 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Richard (Helain) Kroft, 85 Ash Street.

Mrs. Kroft has graciously given her home for the Golden Anniversary Donor Day luncheon. Her mother Mrs. Annette Cohn (the former Mrs. Nathan Jacob) gave this same home 25 years ago.

Contributions (donor — \$15.00, patron — \$25.00) will be used by the section to support their many projects. At the luncheon recognition will be given to deserving members for outstanding service to National Council. The annual meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. followed by the presentation "An Historical Fashion Review."

Mrs. Rhoda Slutchuk and her committee: Mrs. Penny Ganetsky, Mrs. Sandy Miller, Mrs. Sarah Offman, and Mrs. Sandy Rosen extend an invitation to all Council members to join them at this Donor Day celebration.