

The YUO Clarion

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The Future Of A Jewel

by David Sheffey

Islands, for the most part, are not often known as economic boom towns or financial trend setters. Perhaps the one exception that comes to mind, is Japan. Not to be underestimated, however, is the island of Hong-Kong.

Hong Kong is currently classified as a British Crown Colony. With the termination of Britains 99 year lease

on July 1, 1997, this industrious speck of land in the Pacific Ocean will be ceded back to mainland China and will be under their political auspices. At stake in this change is not only the democratic existence of the colony, but also a powerful economic market that last year purchased 6 billion dollars of American goods, and exported over 27 billion dollars world wide. Yet, an issue even more interesting to consider is the potential effects on the unified European marketplace with China's takeover in July of 1997.

In 1988 alone, Hong Kong, an island of about 4 million people,
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Famed Phantom of Terrorisim

by Karen Prusansky

Abu Nidal, Abu Iyad, Abul Abbas, Yabba dabba doo', Abu Musa, and Abu Bakar are all word jumbles with little significance to some, while to others they are an intrinsic part of everyday conversation. I do not wish to compare Fred Flinstone with Abu Iyad, rather I want to discuss Sabri Al-Banna better known as Abu Nidal (Father of Struggle). Abu Nidal, the

deranged leader of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, is responsible for the murders of over 500 people, and claims these deaths as his 'achievements'. Throughout the abysmal underworld of terrorisim, Abu Nidal ranks, amongst his rivals, as most treacherous and vicious.

The Fatah Revolutionary Council was created in 1974 under the leadership of Abu Nidal, after he split from Yasir Arafat's Fatah wing of the Palastinian Liberation Organization. Since then there has been war between Abu Nidal and Arafat. Yasir
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Africa -- Grown Up?

by Segal Magori

Israel, independent since 1948, was still in its pioneering phase when black Africa gained independence. Nonetheless, Israel, infinitesimal compared to Russia and the United States, sent hundreds of trainers and technicians to assist Africans in their struggle for progress and development. The 1960's in particular were the height of African Israeli cooperation. Israelis worked modestly and side by side with the African people rather than merely providing advise. With 30 embassies in Africa, it is no doubt that Israel's presence was a recognized and respected force.

In the early 1970's, 30 African nations broke off their relations with Israel, and Israel was sent packing. Regardless, Israelis who gained the respect of Africans during the "golden period" left a very positive
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image which at times had even grown to the level of myth or legend.

It is no secret that Africa's original reason for severing relations with Israel was to show solidarity with a fellow (Arab) member of the Organization of African Unity (OAU); Egypt. Indeed, there was nothing wrong with the relationship between Israel and many of the OAU nations who severed relations in 1973. Mobutu of Zaire said, it was a question of who got priority, a brother nation like Egypt, or a friend like Israel.

and disappointment with the Arabs. The Arab nations in the OAU have no doubt failed to fulfill the promises they had made prior to severance of ties with Israel.

In fact, African countries are disturbed by many of the Arab actions since 1973. They feel they have not gotten as much Arab aid as they deserve, for instance they were not given a special price during the oil embargo of 1973. They feel that the Arabs are not as supportive of South African liberation as they should be. Furthermore, the Africans object to calls for solidarity with an Arab world that is constantly fighting itself, and they are strongly indignant about Libya's subversive activities.

Aside from that there is a general feeling that African countries should concentrate less on Middle Eastern Affairs, and more on African problems like the economy - where Israeli experience can be of help.

In the 1960's economic ties were neglected in comparison to social and political aims. Today African nations realize that Arab aid has not been sufficient to justify giving up the benefits which their friendship with Israel yielded in the past. By acknowledging past mistakes and acting to solve their problems realistically, African nations are not only expressing national sovereignty but they are also showing signs of maturity.

Africans understand that the solution to their economic problems will neither grow out of slogans nor out of extremist Arab countries. Throughout Africa there is the realization that only the West can help bring about economic changes. They are once again looking towards Israel to help them pave their way to the West. □

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Times have changed since 1973. Africa has grown up. The last few years have reflected a new trend; Africa's willingness to renew ties with Israel. Since Egypt herself has normalized relations with Israel, member states, seeing no conflict of loyalties, found no reason not to follow suit. Israel was invited back to Zaire in 1982, Liberia in 1983, the Ivory Coast and Cameroon in 1986 and Topo in 1987.

Of all the factors which led to this renewal of ties the one with the most impact - perhaps because of its crude reality - was Africa's disillusionment,

Domestic Affairs Editor Jonathan Hornbliss interviewed former mayor Abraham D. Beame in his Sterling Bank executive office on November 24, of this year. Mr. Beame served as Mayor of the City of New York from 1974-1978. A sharp and insightful man, Abe Beame was a great leader of this city and is still considered by many to be a major player in New York politics.

Mr. Beame took the time out of his busy schedule to talk about being the first Jewish mayor of New York, Jewish voters, new mayor David Dinkins, and other timely issues for the Y.U. Clarion. At 11:00AM sharp the interview began.

The Clarion: You were the first Jewish mayor of New York City. Why do you think it took so long for there to be a Jewish mayor in New York?

Abraham D. Beame: I don't think you can give any reasons for it. It so happens that when I ran for mayor, it was a propitious time. I had been in public service as budget director for some 16 years. I had then been Comptroller of the City of New York for eight years so my name was known throughout the City in more than the one borough I was residing in at the time, which was Brooklyn.

As a result, I didn't run as a Jewish mayor, but rather as a public servant who had the experience, the background and had worked on the problems of the City in the past.

Merely because I happened to be Jewish was not an issue in the campaign. The campaign's issue was

who could do the most and be the best for the City of New York.

The Clarion: 60%-65% of the Jewish vote went towards Rudy Gulliani in the recent mayoral election. The Jewish community in New York is predominantly democratic. Why do you think so many Jews voted republican?

Beame: Well, I think it was more a case, in my judgement, of misplaced fear of (Rev.) Jesse Jackson and the fact that Jackson's name was tied with Dinkins's. Also, the misplaced fear



Abraham Beame former Mayor of New York

that Jackson would have much to say about how the city was to be run. I use the expression "misplaced" because I know that is not going to be the case.

Clarion: Do you think David Dinkins will be good for the Jewish community?

Beame: I think he is very helpful and friendly towards the Jewish community. His record speaks that

way. His talking out against anti-semitism, against Rev. Louis Farrakan as a result of which he needed police protection, which he was given. His trip to Bittburg, West Germany in protest to Ronald Reagan's appearance there. His various activities showing support for Israel all add up to his desire to be on the friendliest terms with the Jewish community. In the election he had the support of many Jewish leaders and Jewish organizations. I was very proud to be one of his earliest and adamant supporters.

Clarion: In this forthcoming term, David Dinkins will have to deal with the labor contract renegotiations. Do you think that will hamper his term as mayor ...?

Beame: No, I don't think so. I had a similar problem. I was extremely friendly with them; they were very helpful to me. Yet, when we sat down and showed them what our financial situation was they trusted me and I am confident they will trust David Dinkins to be telling the truth. The labor union leaders will cooperate to the greatest extent that they can and I think David Dinkins will do all right.

Clarion: In general, how do you think Mr. Dinkins will manage in his upcoming term?

Beame: I think he'll do well. He is a good listener. He doesn't jump to conclusions. He doesn't "shoot from the hip", and he will take advise from the people around him. The important thing will be, obviously, the kind of people and the ability of the people who he chooses.

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exported over 4 billion dollars worth of goods to European countries. Undoubtedly, given the appropriate growth conditions of overseas investment and effective management, and with the lifting of trade barriers on the continent, that number could perhaps double before 1997. However, with the shift of power to China, a Communist backed government, these rosey predictions might quickly change. In 1988 alone with the knowledge of the future Chinese takeover, over 45 thousand skilled workers left the island, seeking employment and a life elsewhere. This 'migration', is particularly noteworthy.

Hong Kong should not be perceived solely as a prominent producer of goods. Rather, Hong Kong is also a world financial center, has a fairly strong stock exchange, and possess numerous branches of international banks. A weakened market caused by the Chinese takeover might not only spell disaster on a financial front for Hong Kong, but also for the united States and Europe as well.

In dealing with their over-all development for the next 8 years, Hong Kong has limited options. With the possibility of Chinese policy changes on all fronts, pending their takeover, one can assume that most companies which have entertained the thought of long term location in Hong Kong are now thinking twice. People seeking extended contracts on goods will probably be more apt to contact suppliers in more stable areas in order to facilitate their needs. The European market will most likely be less willing to deal with Hong Kong on a long term scale. At the same time, Hong Kong will have trouble obtaining long-term contracts with the European communities because of the threat of Chinese socialization and the

insecurity that Hong Kong will be unable to fulfill these contracts.

Therefore, the obvious question that arises is: What possibilities does Hong Kong have in terms of their overall development and security? The people of the island, including the 'brain-trust' of the population, can continue to leave the island, as fifty-five thousand are predicted to this year. If one were to be unrealistic, one might suggest that the people of the island rise up in rebellion against China on July 2, 1997, in order to retain their independence. However, due to the overwhelming man power and superior force of the Chinese army, this would be pure folly. Instead the more logical solution would be to conduct political negotiations including Britain, Hong Kong, and China, while having an autonomous international board monitor the action. Despite the fact that China has repeated assurances that she will continue to preserve Hong Kong's capitalist life style until 2047, this is still not sufficient to appease the people.

Somehow, Hong Kong should be allowed to continue to remain a separate economic and political entity. A possible course of action would be to allow China to claim the island as her own, be in charge of defense, and limit her other responsibilities. Unfortunately this picture is highly unrealistic, for unless China drastically changes its political policy this type of action will not occur. The choice most prevalent now would be to allow Hong Kong to remain politically and economically autonomous, possibly through a renewal of Britians release or presided over by a multinational governing board, with compensation provided to the Chinese. Although the price of these terms would be high, the advantages of such an action would be substantial:

- - Increasing economic production;
- - Greater financial stability in the Far East;
- - Prevention of a possible refugee problem.

If an option such as the one above might occur, it would take a great deal of time and patience.

The future of Hong Kong is in a state of flux. If initiative is to be taken, it must be taken soon. Otherwise, all possibility of this little island remaining a bastion of capitalism and democracy will be forfeited. □

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Albania?

by Steven Stadtmauer

When Marvin Howe of *The New York Times* visited Albania this month he speculated that he was the first American reporter to visit that rigid Communist nation since the 1960's. This is not a surprising fact considering the country's traditional hard line stance regarding relations with the West, as well as the East, and its suspicion and condemnation of any changes or reforms. The government of Premier Ramiz Alia is fiercely critical of the policies of the Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev. However, unlike other recalcitrant Communist nations, such as Rumania and Bulgaria, Albania has neither current membership in the Warsaw Pact nor diplomatic ties to the Soviet Union. In fact, this somewhat backward country holds just as much animosity towards the Soviets as it does towards the United States.

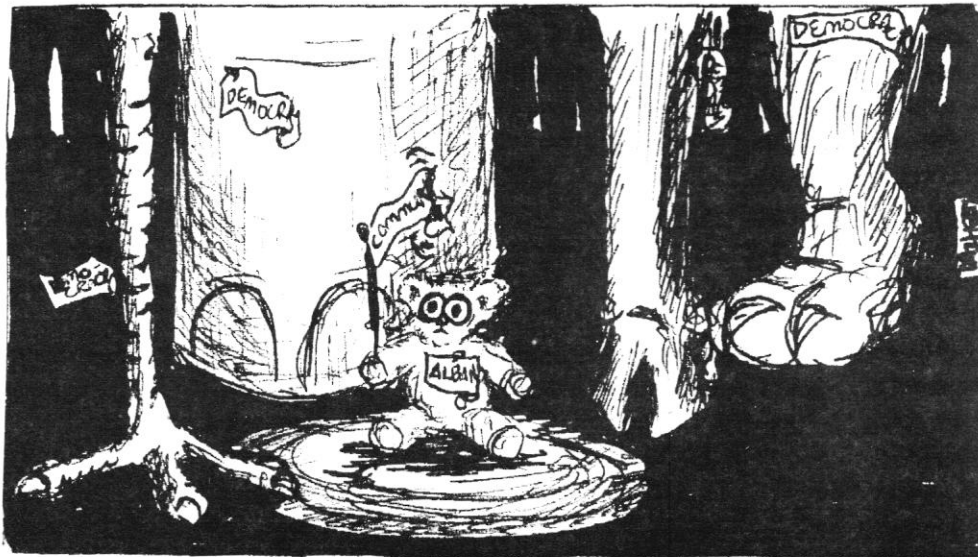
Albania, a nation of about 3 million, is located across the Straits of Otranto from the heel of the Italian peninsula. It is wedged between two countries that have been a tremendous source of trouble to Albania's independence; Yugoslavia to the North, and Greece in the South. Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Albania are all nations completely at odds with one another, yet together, they comprise the entire Communist presence on the Balkan peninsula.

The onset of World War I brought troubles for Albania. Each of its neighboring countries took turns occupying this beleaguered nation. A nationalist revolution in 1921 permitted the Albanians the greatest political freedoms known to them, but a series of failed governments after 1923

led to the accession of the self-proclaimed King Zog in 1925. Zog ruled with a heavy hand and although largely responsible for efforts at modernization and westernization, removed many of the people's liberties. Albania was annexed by Italy in 1939 at the outset of World War II.

Between 1941 and 1944 a strong

Despite joining the Warsaw Pact in 1955, Hoxha had serious reservations and criticisms of Premier Khrushchev's de-Stalinization efforts. Hoxha was deeply committed to Stalinist ideals, for it was Stalin who had won Albania its independence. Finally, after actively courting the Red Chinese at a time when the first cracks of the



"mommy?"

nationalistic Communist movement had gained a firm hold on the country and staged a successful revolution against the weakening German occupiers, who had inherited the country after Italy's surrender to the Allies in 1943. The Communist Party of Albania under the leadership of Enver Hoxha and influenced by Yugoslav Communists, took control of the country, and in 1946 the People's Republic of Albania was founded with Hoxha at its head. The fledgling country was under Yugoslavian domination and soon Hoxha fell at odds with the Yugoslavian dictator, Tito. However, the eruption of the Soviet-Yugoslav dispute saved Hoxha and the country from Titoist domination. This brought Albania firmly into Stalin's Soviet camp. After the infamous dictator's death in 1953, the tension between the two nations was exacerbated.

Sino-Soviet split were starting to appear, Hoxha completed his break with Moscow in November, 1960, by publicly denouncing Khrushchev as "a traitor to the Communist idea, a weakling and a revisionist." Soon afterward, Albania became China's strongest and only Communist ally. By 1968, Albania had formally withdrawn from the Warsaw Pact.

The events of the late 50's and early 60's that brought Albania away from the Soviet sphere are especially relevant now at a time when Eastern Europe is once again showing distinct signs of revisionism. Ramiz Alia, Hoxha's successor of five years, is just as disdainful of Soviet intent as his predecessor, with no signs of any Soviet-Albanian warming. Since

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A New Glasnost In Washington

by Elly Krinsky

In the past weeks, the observer of current Soviet trends has witnessed dramatic change in Soviet policy. Taking a laissez-faire attitude towards East European change, admitting immorality and violation of the ABM treaty during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, and admitting that the USSR should stay out of Finland, are all fantastic examples of the new attitude Moscow is portraying. Even more unbelievable is that these surprising changes occurred within ten days of each other.

These recent Soviet changes prompted the US State Department to alter its attitude towards Glasnost and Perestroika. On October 23, in a speech dealing mostly with nuclear arms reductions, Secretary of State James Baker III commented that the

Soviet Union is now providing the "clearest opportunity to reduce the risk of war since the dawn of the nuclear age...It would be a folly indeed to miss this opportunity." Although Mr. Baker was referring specifically to current opportunities in First-Strike arms reductions, it is obvious that the Kremlin's recent action is forcing the U.S. policy-makers to take Gorbachev seriously. Some, however, feel that the administration is attempting to show critics its enthusiasm in greeting the Soviet reform openly and positively.

Several days later, President Bush announced that he would meet President Gorbachev in December. *The New York Times* commented that "sweeping changes in Eastern Europe were a catalyst for the sudden announcement." One of the main reasons the President announced this

summit meeting was driven in part by the "stunning momentum of democratic movements in Eastern Europe." Mr. Bush admitted that he changed his mind in regard to USSR progress and felt that the prospective meeting would be productive.

The Times further reported that both leaders had general goals for the summit. Mr. Gorbachev, while trying to avoid U.S. sympathy, wanted an assurance that the U.S. would not try to "exploit the retrenchment of communism for some strategic advantage." President Bush wanted an assurance of continued Soviet non-intervention in East European attempts at democratization.

Significance lies in the fact that the U.S. has started to look optimistically
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A Russian Economic Community

by Sara Fineberg

In 1992 the European economy will be united under a program known as the EEC (European Economic Community). There are nagging questions in regard to the development of the EEC: Will Russia be included in the program? If so, will it mean the end of Communism and the lifting of the Iron Curtain? Will the EEC therefore be a political as well as an economical program? How will the United States be affected if the Soviet Union joins the EEC? The answers to these questions lay in the hands of one man-Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Soviet leader views the EEC as the solution to his country's economic

crisis. He is therefore seeking to obtain membership into the group "striving to become the ultimate creation of a United States of Western Europe." The twelve government heads of the EEC have mixed feelings about the Soviet Union joining their program. They view East Europeans as "victims deserving assistance." Russia however must be willing to put an end to its forty year reign of communist rule.

There are two problems that the EEC countries must grapple with. The first is West Germany's willingness to treat the changes taking place in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe with the utmost optimism. The other leading EEC countries are not as confident that his reforms are irreversible. The latest

polls show that 93% of West Germans desire closer relations with the Soviet Union that they grew up regarding as an enemy. Foreign minister, Hans Dietrich Genscher believes that the Germans owe a debt to Europeans after two world wars and can best be repaid by pushing for a reconciliation between Europe's split halves.

A second problem is posed by Gorbachev with his promotion of the "common European house" concept. Gorbachev admitted that although he has "no finished blue-print" for the home, his plans do not include the United States. In order to gain more popularity, the Soviet leader stepped
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The Wailing Wall

by Art Weisbrot

Last year I had the great fortune of visiting the "Western Wall". Like every other time that I've gone, I couldn't fight back the tears. I stood against it and stared up at its commanding and stern rigidity. I silently acknowledged the soldiers, standing around in their clean, crisp uniforms, carefully keeping control. Their guns ready to quickly deter any potential trouble. Of course I knew what lay beyond the tall, imposing bricks. On one hand, the "shrine" on the other side is even too sweet to think about. It represents the unity of my people. The oneness that we've always yearned for.

But "The Wall" also represents the division of our culture. It serves as a painful reminder of the fact that the mistakes of our forefathers led to the establishment of this wall, and all of the divisiveness that it symbolizes. The very fact that we aren't supposed to ever cross it, makes the wall's presence almost, well, ironic.

And so a few times each year, (every national holiday), my family climbs into our 1978, off white BMW station wagon, heads toward the "Old City", and walks the solemn path to "The Wall". Others come every week, some each morning. But all share the same prayer once they get there - that one day our people can unite and live together, once again, in this, our undivided German fatherland.

There are those who say that my people should remain divided; That united, we pose some kind of threat.

R i g h t
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The 28 year-old Berlin wall, the most visible symbol of the cold war, became porous a few weeks ago. By midnight, thousands of East Berliners - of all ages - streamed through various crossing points in the wall into the western part of the city, an action that was just a dream a few hours earlier.

To understand this fantastic turn of events, one must first return to where it all started: August, 1961. In response to why the wall was erected, the official Soviet report maintains that "The state boundary to the West is for the protection from western provocations." Almost from the day it was founded - October 7, 1949- the East German Democratic Republic attracted the adverse attention of the

arrange a peace treaty with the GDR on Soviet terms -or face getting booted out of Berlin in six months. Being the maniac that he was, Krushchev thought that quotes like "hundreds of millions will perish", and referring to the Western European nations as "my hostages", would terrorize the world into unconditional agreement with his policies.

What resulted however was that thousands of East Germans "voted with their feet". Realizing that the dictatorial style of Krushchev was endangering the contact, however small that they had with the West, a large chunk of the East German people sought to alleviate their situation by fleeing to the West.

When the measures of the GDR

BREAKTHROUGH BERLIN

by Seth Frohlich

world. The GDR's contempt for human life and its brazen disregard of international law, helped it earn the reputation of being the harshest regime in the Communist bloc.

In rapid succession, the GDR became notorious for a series of shocking actions. It rearmed, in defiance of the four power agreements. Later, in its harsh and bloody suppression of the popular uprising of 1953, the GDR was unmasked before the world as hated by its own people - dependent for its existence upon Russian military might. The foundation of the Berlin Wall was 'dug' when Nikita Krushchev's notorious 'aide-memoire' became public knowledge. This amounted to nothing less than an ultimatum to Western nations to

government failed to retain her population, the Soviet army 'invaded' East Berlin on August 13, 1961. They built the wall with the 'freely given' help of East Germany workers. Perhaps the most accurate way of detailing sentiment at the time is from a picture that was taken: that of an East German worker building the Wall, surrounded by VOPPO's border guards, with tears streaming down his face. The Wall was a violation of human rights.

Over the years the Wall has stood as a symbol of the failure of Communism as a government. Any government needing a wall to contain its people is obviously doing something wrong. There never was an opportunity for the

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reduction of tensions between the two halves of the city while the Cold War and mistrust between the two supporters was evident. However, with the advent of Glasnost, change became possible. Under Mikhal Gorbachev's leadership, changes were implemented that made possible freedom of speech and organization.

The new freedoms unleashed the repressed anger of East Germany in response to the government's prior brutal suppression of civil liberties. Most prominent of these stifled freedoms was not being able to see family and friends in the estranged West Germany. This led to the organization of opposition groups to the East German government.

When it became apparent that Moscow would not suppress this popular uprising as it had in '61, thousands of East Germans started fleeing to the 'democratized' countries of the Eastern Bloc. The pleas of the GDR government for order fell on deaf ears, and eventually led to the resignation of Eric Honeker, one of the original builders of the Wall. Due to the fact that Honeker's replacement was his crony, and just as much of a hard-liner, the riots continued. The entire East German Cabinet resigned as testimony to the scale of the crisis which had seized the state.

The Politburo of the GDR, where the real power rested, declared the new travel law unacceptable, because it still imposed certain restrictions on travel. This led to speculation that the free travel denied to East Germans since the Berlin Wall was raised in 1961 would be granted. Still, the demonstrators called for free elections. Sebastian Pflugbeil, of New Forum, the main opposition group, said that

the "resignation was the first step that cleared the way for discussion of a new election law. However, without free elections, it is an illusion."

Finally bowing to popular pressure, the East German government opened her borders. Hundreds of thousand swarmed to the West. East Germans gradually became disillusioned by the economic and political shape of their country. Though only a small percentage (4%) of those who rushed to the West were immigrants, there was still a tremendous opposition movement clamoring for the democratic process.

On November 14 the East German Parliament publicly stated that the Communist party's failings were so great that it was no longer entitled to the leading role guaranteed in the nation's constitution. Hans Modrow, elected as the new Prime Minister and widely regarded as a proponent of liberalization was charged to create a coalition government including members of East Germany's long-subservient non-Communist parties. This coalition, however, was not enough. There seemed to be a consensus among the demonstrators that the leadership was making concessions only to retain its power, and that only continued demonstrations could bring free elections.

Many people believed that the proposed changes were just rhetoric. For East Germany to be productive, the Communist Party must be totally ousted. It is just too corrupt, and the feeling of arrogance runs too deep.

The demonstrations continued as the central committee of the Party geared for an extraordinary Congress in December. Though the mass exodus might have slowed down, the damage is already done. There might not be a

Party left to speak of in December. One thing is for certain; as long as there is a Party the issue of reunification is a moot point .



(Continued from page 7, Weisbrot)

With the Soviet Union on top of us, and American backed NATO pretty much all around us, we're really dangerous. Of course, Israel is worried since killing Jews is a national pastime, but what do they know? They like their Wall. They worship it. To the Jews, The Wall represents a link to the past. To us, the abolition of The Wall is a step toward the future. I submit that all walls, all around the world should be knocked down. They're evil. What was it that Frost once said? "Before I built a wall I'd ask to know, What I was walling in or walling out, and to whom I was like to give offense." Well I for one, take offense. I mean, how can the world just stand by, while our whole nation is being destroyed? Families are being torn apart, people killed for no reason, where's the justice? Ok, we did cause a World War or two this century, but we'll do better this time. We promise.

Now, as I reflect on my visit to "The Wall", I can't help but feel resentment. Who are these people that think that they can impose their will on us; Tearing us apart, ordering us around, treating us like "inferiors"?

Boy, one day...

Interested in writing for the Clarion?

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One Decade of Thatcherism

by Lori Kunin

Coincidentally, two of the most well known women in the world hail from the same country. The first, Queen Elizabeth, is the reigning English monarch who symbolizes stability and a sense of grandeur to her people. The second is Margret Thatcher, who for the past decade has ruled England with an iron fist. Considered invincible, Ms. Thatcher has won three consecutive Prime Ministerial elections making her the first person in 160 years to do so. However, in the past year, people from all points on the political spectrum have begun to question Thatcher's domination.

Both at home and abroad, the Thatcher mystique has been showing signs of a sharp decline. In England, her policies, in addition to her party, are not receiving the support to which they are accustomed. Abroad, Thatcher is having problems with the European community. NATO, and specifically the United States, are not as supportive as they had been during the years of the Reagan administration.

Although England's foreign problems are mounting, it is their domestic problems which seem the most threatening. England has a high inflation rate of 5%, and an interest rate of 14% which is the highest of any major industrialized country. The unemployment problem in England affects 7% of the workforce, which is double the figure of fully employed.

In England, only 15% of all students go to University. Thatcher wants to raise this rate to 20% by the 1990's although she is unwilling to allocate

the funds for this program. This increased funding will have to come from the students. This will hurt not only the students, but the University faculty and administrators as well feel that they are not receiving the correct amount of public funding. Professor of Jurisprudence, Ronald Dworkin has said "The very concept of liberty is being challenged and corroded by the Thatcher government".

Another domestic problem with which Ms. Thatcher is faced is her desire to introduce competition into the health system. The National Health Service in



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England provides 90% of the country with free health care. Thatcher wants to create an internal market within the system to force hospitals to compete for government funds. Some people are afraid that hospitals will be pushing people through the system so quickly that insufficient care would be paid to long term patients such as the elderly or mentally ill.

Prime Minister Thatcher is not in favor of certain aspects of the European Economic Community which is scheduled for 1992. She once said "There is no such thing as society, only individuals". The Prime Minister feels that if England joins with other European countries, they will lose their national identity and become just

another segment of the community. Ms. Thatcher is also against England linking itself to the European Monetary System. This is an arrangement where the countries involved will hold their exchange rates fixed in relation to other European currencies. Thatcher feels that Britain will be held back by the community, and her economic growth will be stunted.

One cannot say that Margret Thatcher has not done anything good for England. No area in British life has changed more than their labor relations. For more than 40 years there was a sense of militancy between the workers and the owners. Hundreds of strikes took place over this time which obstructed any progress. During the 1980's five different "union-bashing" laws were instituted which led to less strikes in 1988 than in any year since 1940. Thatcher recently tried to clear up Anglo-French relations with a surprise invitation extended to President Francois Mitterand to visit England. She has also worked for a compromise over NATO's arms control stance.

England is a country which is being plagued by both internal and external problems. It is being led by a woman who runs the country as if it were a one-man-show. Since her second re-election, Thatcher's appeal has dwindled. According to one Conservative MP "When you're in high seas and heading for the rocks you don't throw the captain of the ship overboard. But whether or not the Prime Minister leads the party into the next general election has now become a more open question." There is a big chance that Margret Thatcher's brand of leadership called "Thatcherism" may survive, but is very questionable as to whether it will be led by its namesake.

□

Do the Right Thing

by Dalit Weiss

Should abortion be legal as a means of birth control? Should abortion be used to determine the sex of one's child? Is abortion murder? Such questions were supposed to have been laid to rest in 1973 when the Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade* that the "right of personal privacy includes the abortion decision." However, this right may be regulated to "express only the legitimate state interests at stake...."

The main thrust of *Roe v. Wade* was that abortion before the end of the first trimester was a choice to be made only by the mother, based on the right to privacy of the Fourteenth Amendment. Of course, many Americans, who were against abortion as a matter of choice, did not share the court's broad interpretation that the privacy clause encompassed a woman's right to terminate her pregnancy. They believed that the Court's active role in legalizing abortion was a clear overstep of the separation of powers between branches of government that were laid down in the Constitution. The power to legalize abortion laid with Congress in the form of legislation, not with the Supreme Court in the form of legal decisions. As a result, anti-abortion groups organized in order to reverse *Roe v. Wade*.

In 1989, they were partially victorious with the July 3 ruling of *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services* which "upheld the constitutionality of a Missouri law that sharply restricted the availability of publicly funded abortion services and required doctors to test

for the viability of a fetus at 20 weeks." Furthermore, the Court attacked the question regarding the "rigid line" laid down in *Roe v. Wade*, that the fetus is viable after the first trimester ends; stating that such a rigid framework "is hardly consistent with the notion of a Constitution case." However, while the Court disqualified the standards laid down in *Roe v. Wade* for viability, it failed to set any new standards. The implication is that states are now free to pass legislation regulating abortion since the Court upheld that Missouri law which restricted abortion for some women. The spotlight of the abortion issue has therefore shifted from our nation's capitol to our states' legislatures as state representatives begin to answer the ethical and legal questions of abortion.

Already there are many new developments regarding abortion in state legislatures, state courthouses and even gubernatorial elections that have affected the lives of millions of Americans. Pennsylvania, the first state to pass legislation restricting abortion, passed several laws that the Supreme Court held unconstitutional, challenging the Supreme Court to totally reverse its 1973 decision.

Called a "national landmark" by some and a "terrible setback" by others, Pennsylvania's Abortion Control Act prohibits abortion after the twenty fourth week of pregnancy at which time the fetus is considered viable outside the mother's womb. Abortion after this point would only be allowed to save the life of the mother. The Act also prohibits abortions at public hospitals and at the request of parents who want a child of a particular sex. The only exceptions to having abortions at public hospitals are in the case of rape, incest, or danger to the life of the mother. Women who

want abortions must in most cases notify their husbands and be informed of fetus developments and alternatives to abortion. All attempts to weaken the Abortion Control Act with amendments failed.

In addition To Pennsylvania, other state legislatures in which anti-abortion measures have gained support include Michigan and Wisconsin. Florida's legislature, which some thought was likely to restrict abortion after *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services* had been decided, has rejected the Governor's proposed anti-abortion measures. Furthermore, a ruling in the Florida Supreme Court called for striking down the Consent Law. This law requires minors to obtain parental consent for an abortion.

The abortion issue also decided the winners of New Jersey and Virginia's gubernatorial race. In Washington D.C., attention has moved away from the legality of abortion to the use of federal funding for abortion for women who were victims of rape or incest.

President Bush, whose own policy parallels that of the new Pennsylvania legislation, has also denied the use of federal money for research involving aborted fetuses, even though the use of fetal tissues may advance medical knowledge in childhood diabetes, Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease.

Finally, the real battle of abortion will be fought by American citizens in the form of rallies and protests. On November 12, tens of thousands of pro-choice protestors rallied in Washington. The year 1990 will prove to be instrumental in formulating future policies and in shaping the social attitudes of the abortion issue in the decade to come.

towards the Soviet reform. President Gorbachev probably understands better than any one else how difficult it is for the United States to find Soviet promises credible. Mr. Gorbachev is presently the only member of the Politburo who took part in the notorious government of Leonid Brezhnev. The Soviet president realizes that drastic change is imperative. In his book Perestroika, Gorbachev writes that "We know our shortcomings far better and write and speak about them with greater sincerity and competence than you do (Western critics of economic reform.) Thus, people in the west will gradually stop believing all the nonsense they are told about the Soviet Union. All of that hardly promotes trust in the policies of Western countries." The past month of Soviet action backs up Mr. Gorbachev's words. The USSR showed the United States that the Soviets realized their mistakes. Consequently, this confession did lead to an apparent amelioration of trust on the part of the White House.

Whether President Gorbachev's action illustrates an ideological change based on reassessment of goals and ideas; Whether it is all public relations in order to reduce arms spending, which will allow the Kremlin to focus on its seriously declining economy; Whether it represents a sales pitch for economic aid from the West; Mr. Gorbachev is showing the world that he wants and needs to be taken seriously. On September 21, the Soviet president removed five top party officials from the Politburo who were not fully cooperating with his ideas. At present, Mr. Gorbachev can be described as a crusader for his ideas, letting nothing block his path to economic reform. Mr. Gorbachev is correct in his assumption that turning around the pathetic Soviet economy can occur

without the moral support and understanding of the West. We have now begun to accept his sincerity; Let us now watch and witness the next step in the Soviet leader's revolutionary plan.

Made in Japan

by Michelle Chrein

Sony, Quassar, Mitshubishi, Panasonic, Nissan, Toyota, - all of these companies are a large part of American life, yet they are Japanese in origin. Americans spend billions of dollars on Japanese goods. The Japanese then use our money to invest in American real estate. With the recent purchase of Rockefeller Center by the Japanese, there is an ever growing feeling that Japan is quickly purchasing the United States and gaining great power in this country and abroad.

Here are just a few statistics regarding Japanese investments:

- Japanese corporations have invested more than 41 billion dollars in U.S. assets.
- Almost 75 billion dollars have been invested by the Japanese in Europe, Latin America, and Asia.
- Last year Japanese investors poured 70 billion dollars into foreign stocks and bonds.

Since the Japanese buy more high powered lobbyists, treasury bills, and bonds than any other foreign bidder, there is a fear that the Japanese will try to use this economic power as a policy weapon. There are those who believe the Yen may become the competitor against our American dollar as the major international currency. If Japan continues to fear that our dollar is declining, they may demand future loans to Washington be paid in Japanese currency.

Although the economic power of the Japanese may be intimidating, there

are positive aspects as well. If Japan stopped buying America's growing government deficit, U.S. interest rates would likely rise. Financially, Japan is more than able to share the burden with the U.S. of supplying aid to under-developed countries.

For those who fear Japan may take over America's position as world leader, the answer is quite simple. Japan is not looking to become a world power. The Japanese perceive themselves as a small nation and not yet as a wealthy country. This self image prevents Japan from taking a more active role in world politics. Although Japan's GNP is 20,000 dollars more than the United States, the U.S. still enjoys a better standard of living. Japanese housing is so outrageously expensive that buyers must take out 50 year mortgages. Also, the cultural nature of the Japanese creates the desire to only participate in the most necessary foreign dealings. According to Kenichi Ohmae, author of American best sellers regarding Japan's role in the world, "We don't speak of shoguns in a favorable way. Someone striving to be a leader is perceived as a power monger. Just as a Japanese individual is expected to profess humility at being selected a leader, so to the nation feels it must wait to have leadership thrust upon it, rather than grab the role for itself".

We must remember that Japan is and most likely will remain a loyal friend to the United States. We depend on each other for economic and political strength. Instead of fearing Japan's growing power, we should applaud our relationship.

Have A Happy Chanukah!

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up his campaign to force a hesitant Bush administration to negotiate the agreement is reached reducing the Warsaw Pact's advantages in conventional weaponry. Gorbachev stated that only Europeans are affected by short-range weapons. By pushing negotiations with the United States he is offering a Soviet solution for reconciliation between the two Europes as they are, one that does not coincide with the EEC formula's unqualified emphasis on democracy.

Despite Gorbachev's attempts to win over Europe with his political reforms, French President Francois Mitterand is concerned that Gorbachev's concept of "common house" might be aimed against the EEC. French officials view his plans as his anxious reaction to Western Europe's success. Aware that the EEC is a solution to the Soviet Union's forlorn East European ward, the French feel Gorbachev is saying to Western Europeans: "Look, why stay holed up in your own house when you could share some place much bigger?" Mitterand is responding to Gorbachev: "We are not ready to give up what we have achieved for a dream."

Russia's plans for joining the EEC is making Washington very nervous. Its biggest concern now is that Western Europe's eagerness for profit will overcome caution in trade with the Eastern bloc. Gorbachev receives a double benefit from American anxiety. Aside from getting goods and technology the East desperately needs, he is putting another barrier between the U.S. and its allies. □

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Arafat regards the Abu Nidal movement as "a most dangerous

nuisance." Although their goal is identical, their methods vary. There is an immense power struggle between Arafat and Abu Nidal and there is no doubt in the minds of the Israeli government that a raging animosity exists between them. Abu Nidal's need to be the most powerful among the guerrilla factions has designated him as the "deadliest terrorist alive". Abu Nidal alone claims responsibility for the following brutal terrorist acts:

- The Hurling of grenades into a swimming pool in Athens filled with handicapped British tourists (2 dead, 13 wounded)
- The 1985 airport massacres in Rome and Vienna in the El Al terminal (14 dead, 120 wounded)
- The attempted assassination of the Israeli Ambassador to London in 1982
- The bombing of a synogogue in Istanbul 1n 1986 (21 dead)
- A group of Palestinian children murdered aboard the hijacked Egypt Air jet in Malta (60 dead, 27 injured)
- Death of more than 150 members of the Fatah Revolutionary Council due to internal struggle
- The murder of his brother-in-law and nephew because of disloyalty
- The tossing of grenades into crowded restaurants in Rome (38 wounded)

The United States and Israeli officials concede that the Fatah Revolutionary Council is "the most tightly run and least flabby of all the terrorist groups, and the hardest to penetrate."

Abu Nidal is a clandestine figure who rarely allows himself to be interviewed. One exception was an interview conducted by a German magazine in 1985. Its purpose was to terminate the rumors of his demise from a weak heart condition. Since he is seldomly photographed, his interviewers are not certain that he is the true Sabri al-Banna. Therefore at one interview he declared " I am neither a ghost nor a phantom, I am Abu Nidal of flesh and blood." He considers himself to be the sole saviour of the Arab people from all adversity. Issam Sartawi a well known Palestinian said in 1982 that "Sabri al-Banna is a psychopath. His men are the most dangerous killers.

They are capable of anything." Issam Sartawi was killed a year later. Abu Nidal happily admits that his enemies portray him as "dangerous as an atomic bomb."

The most recent actions taken by the Fatah Revolutionary Council have been the murders of 300 Palestinians as a necessary action to cleanse the Palestinian movement of "agents and spies". However, we must not forget that its main goal is to destroy the Zionist State along with its inhabitants. The civilized world must make an effort to put an end to this madness. □

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1978, the Albanians have even broken relations with China citing that country's new ties to the West. Alia is sincere in his dogma and the country continues to be ruled through Hoxha's Stalinist technique.

Before 1960, Albania had been largely dependent on Soviet economic aid, but since then has weaned itself off of all foreign assistance-especially after 1978. This economic independence, coupled with the nation's geographic isolation from the Soviet Union, ensures that Gorbachev has no leverage over the government to introduce any reforms. It is certain that no reforms can be facilitated from the inside Albanian refugee put it, if the country were to open its borders, "even "even the turtles would run." □

(Continued from page 3.)

Beame: You always get that question put to you by interviewers and one can't give advise in one sentence. All I can say is 'Be yourself', which he demonstrated during his campaign. He is a solid citizen and he is not a rabble-rouser. He is a good listener and he wants to do the most to bring the people of the city together. All I can say is 'Be yourself'. □