

# MEDDLING IN ISRAEL'S AFFAIRS

By Esther Vilenska

## Tel Aviv

On the eve of the Sixth Anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel, the American imperialists launched a new frontal attack upon that State. The speech of Assistant Secretary of State Henry A. Byroade (on May 1) concerning the policy of the United States government in the Middle East presages renewed, flagrant and intensified intervention of American imperialism in the internal affairs of our country. The speech is a warning that further attempts will be made by Washington to increase tension in the Middle East and to harness the countries of that part of the world into an aggressive alliance.

The speech set forth five characteristic "lines": 1. open intervention of the American government in the affairs of Israel and the request that Israel annul its repatriation laws; 2. hostile provocation between Jews and Arabs; 3. frightening the Arabs with the "Jewish danger" and frightening the Jews with the "Arab danger"; 4. use of the Arab refugee question as an excuse for continued meddling by the American imperialists on the borders of Israel; 5. a call to Israel and the other Middle East countries to prepare for an anti-Soviet war.

One of the central points in Byroade's speech was his brazen demand for the nullification of an Israel law. This is actually an open attempt at dictation: it is brutal interference in the internal affairs of Israel. The Communists have been saying for a long time that America's rulers are intervening in the internal affairs of our country. We said it when the intervention began with the acceptance of the first American loan. One paragraph of the loan agreement specifically obliged Israel to submit regular reports to the American government about "economic problems." These reports were requested by the United States as a means of interfering in the economic affairs of Israel, to fit its economy into Washington's strategic aim of subjugation. The intervention, which began quietly in economic questions, was gradually intensified until it encompassed all other spheres. Now it is being carried out with great fanfare in the speech of Byroade, which actually contains "instructions from Washington" on the annulment of an Israel statute.

This meddling has gone so far that the

Development Budget of Israel must have the official approval of the American economic delegation and has finally reached a point where the American government intervenes openly to change the laws of the State of Israel. But only the Israeli people have the right and the power to make decisions on the question of *Aliyah* (immigration) to Israel and on Israel's laws. All the forces in our society that have the freedom of our country close to their hearts must unite to fight against this American intervention in Israel's problems and for the independence of Israel.

The American imperialists unblushingly "establish" today that Israel is "aggressive" in order that tomorrow they may "establish" that the Arab countries are "aggressive." They have adopted the system of shouting "Stop Thief!" in order to distract the attention of the peoples from the real aggressor and the chief intriguer, American imperialism, which is organizing the bloodshed on the Israel-Arab borders with the help of its agents in Israel and the Arab countries.

The Israeli people and the peoples of the Arab countries want peace. They know that the best thing for them is a peaceful life and they will not spare any effort to persuade their governments to begin direct negotiations for a democratic peace.

The Israeli government did not protest the hostile speech of Byroade and his insolent interference in the inner affairs of our people. The day after Byroade's speech the government made public a "Statement of Its Reaction" to the speech. But this reaction was limited to the section dealing with interference in the question of immigration. The government opinion is that Byroade's speech can lead to "a serious strain in the relations between Israel and the Arab countries." The government did not go so far as to sever its friendship with the war-inciters and the enslavers of peoples. It only "issued a statement" about the "serious strain."

The conservative paper *Haaretz* explains the reasons for such a reaction on the part of the government. "A central place in our policy has been set aside for our relations with America," says the paper, "and our dependence upon her is so decisive that we must deal more cautiously in every reaction that can affect these relations."

The government "reacts" and knuckles under. It "reacts" and continues the policy of cooperation with the Washington "observers" on our borders. It "reacts" and continues the policy of helping Washington's anti-Soviet foreign policy. It "reacts" and proceeds to maintain the slavish agreements with the Washington rulers and to beg them for military aid, which leads to tightening control over Israel by the American government.

The Israel government is satisfied with this "statement" and with submissiveness. The masses of the people, however, are protesting against this imperialist interference in our problems. They are intensifying the struggle for dissolution of the enslaving agreements, for direct peace negotiations with the Arab countries and for a secure peace throughout the world.

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