

**"Rights and Wrongs in
The Arab-Israeli Conflict"**

This book will be a surprise to many who are acquainted with the author's previous writings and with *The Minority of One*, of which he is founder and editor. M. S. Arnoni has for years been battling on political fronts, aligning himself with the Third World, the socialist countries, and revolutionary forces in Latin America, Africa and Asia. He has been a friend of revolutionary Cuba ever since the publication of the first issue of his monthly, in 1959. He has denounced U.S. interventions in Latin America. He has argued for years that U.S. foreign policy is in fact motivated by the aggressive and advantage-seeking intentions which its spokesmen have for so long imputed to the USSR and which they now impute to the People's Republic of China. His was perhaps the first voice in America consistently and radically denouncing the U.S. war in Vietnam as genocidal. There was never a question as to where Arnoni stood in the world alignment of political forces.

By the logic of those alignments, Arnoni should now be among those who loudly denounce Israel and praise the Arab governments. He does the virtual opposite. But in doing the opposite, Arnoni is least of all inconsistent. His consistency, however, is not one of ideological structures nor one of political alignments; it is a consistency of human values. Neither his praise nor his denunciation emanate from a rigid political loyalty that may serve as a short-cut guide to the rights and wrongs of any situation. What is important to him, and what guides his attitude is an insistence that the individual must always exercise his own judgment and keep his conscience alert and well fed with skepticism. Any default on this, Arnoni views as related to the infamous Eichmann attitude of "I only obeyed orders."

Arnoni has a special reason for this emphasis. He spent nearly six years in Nazi ghettos and concentration camps. In Auschwitz, he lost his parents and sister. This is the lesson he derived from his tragic experiences: "Having seen men like you and me committing the most heinous bestialities, I

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To the Anatomy of the Forces of
Progress and Reaction in the Middle East
by M. S. Arnoni Introduction by D. F. Fleming

M. S. Arnoni

The Minority

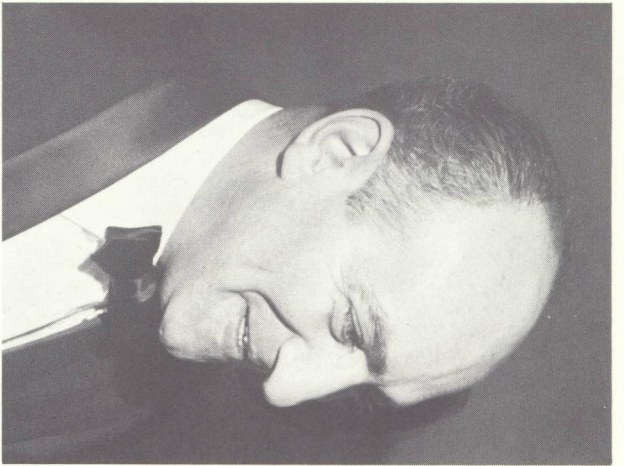
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M. S. Arnoni

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asked myself what accounted for such debasement. I concluded that it was a lack of moral self-reliance that caused them blindly to trust the state and its leaders. Mob psychology replaced a personal conscience."

Because Arnoni rejects any mob psychology, including that of the Left, in favor of a personal conscience, he could not accept the progressive bona fides of Arab nationalism, any more than he could remain indifferent to Israel's desperate struggle for survival. "Ideological consistency is least of all achieved when we close our eyes and say that things are as they are not," says the author. Because he is primarily concerned with the fate of human beings, not of ideological diagrams, on the Arab-Israeli issue, he parted company with most of his comrades. The real difference is probably that while to many on the Left ideology is supreme, to Arnoni it is merely "a grammar of humanism."

Designed by Martin Stephen Moskof



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A Few Comments on: "Rights and Wrongs in The Arab-Israeli Conflict"

My deep congratulations on your courageous defense of righteousness and justice.

Phnom Penh

Prince Norodom Sihanouk
Head of State of Cambodia

Let me be one of the few to congratulate you on your analysis of the Jewish-Arab situation.

Israel may be the puppet of the imperialists, but I believe I can guarantee that when the showdown comes on the final solution, Foggy Bottom will be on the side of the oil wells and all Israel will get is sympathy and perhaps an airlift for some of its leaders.

Little Compton, R.I.

Harvey O'Connor

(Among Harvey O'Connor's books are The Empire of Oil and World Crisis in Oil. He is Chairman of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee.)

Your long essay interested me enormously. You absolutely live up to your claim of pursuing truth no matter whose corns are stepped on. I have maintained an agonized pseudo-neutrality on the Mid East mess, but you have pushed me a little closer to the Israeli side.

Cuernavaca Morelos, Mexico

Cedric Beifrage

(co-founder and former editor of The National Guardian)

It is the outstanding philosophical and political treatise on the subject. A work of historic value, it will be appreciated by generations to come.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Raymond Marcus

(author)

Although I have reservations regarding Israeli foreign and domestic policy, just as I do toward Soviet Vietnam policy, I must say that your analysis of the Middle East (with its international interconnections) is without doubt the most cogent, intelligent and rational approach yet published.

If we cannot support an American army using SS tactics in Vietnam, how can we possibly support an Arab "liberation" organized by semi-retired SS officers? What many of us in the American Left must finally realize is that even our splendid theory of National Liberation Fronts is not infallible. Because the socialist cause throughout the world is attempting to accomplish so much it will naturally make mistakes, but for us to assist Arab plans of genocide is the one mistake no human being, no matter what his politics, can permit.

San Francisco, Calif.

Leslie Woolf Hedley

(writer, critic, poet)

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