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What Gen. Brown Said

You can learn a lot about the times we live in, from the latest flap about the alleged anti-Semitism of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. George S. Brown. In case you do not know the basic facts as yet, here they are:

First, Gen. Brown was speaking to a small seminar at Duke University Law School. Second, however, one of the students was equipped with a tape recorder. Third, at the close of a long session, Gen. Brown made some unfortunately phrased remarks on the impact of Israel on U.S. defense policy. Fourth and finally, the student-wired-for-sound then offered these remarks for publication.

As to the charge of fundamental anti-Semitism, it is enough to note Gen. Brown's record in the Yom Kippur war. On that occasion, he and his intelligence advisers foresaw Israel's desperate need for resupply in many categories of arms at least six days before the order to resupply Israel was issued by the White House.

By Gen. Brown's command, all that could be provided for Israel by the Air Force—which he then headed—was therefore assembled in readiness at the points of embarkation during the six days of grace. Preplanning for the airlift to Israel was also done. Without these steps, it may be doubted whether the resupply of Israel would have been sufficiently speedy in 1973.

As to what Gen. Brown actually said at Duke University, there were some things that are plainly pretty hard to take. One such was the reference to "where the Jewish money is in this country."

Yet except for the Chinese-Americans, it is an obvious fact that the Jew-

ish-Americans are this country's single most successful minority group. It is equally obvious that their political influence, more particularly in the Democratic Party, is at least proportional to this group's well deserved success. Everyone knows these things, even if there is a convention that one must not say them.

There is another thing, too, that it is not conventional to say, which Gen. Brown partly said. He quoted the Israelis, "coming to us for equipment." The Israelis have a way of answering the laments of the U.S. military about their hard-pressed defense budget by the somewhat arrogant promise: "Don't worry about the Congress. We'll take care of the Congress." But the Israeli promise has always been kept!

The truth is that a great debt is owed to Israel and the Jewish-American community by the narrowest, nastiest WASPS who are still sufficiently old-fashioned to care about national survival. Long ago, if it had not been for Israeli Jewish pressures, the national defense of the United States would have been cut to ribbons by the new anti-defense posture of American liberal-intellectuals, plus the impact of the generation gap on defense and foreign policy, plus the power of the left-wing Democrats.

As noted in this space only a few days ago, the Israeli ambassador, the able Simcha Dinitz, is now the strongest and most effective lobbyist on Capitol Hill for a serious American national defense and a reasonably tough-minded American foreign policy. It is humiliating that this should be the case; and Gen. Brown seemingly feels it is humiliating.

Yet if a foreign ambassador is the only man who can save us from the ultimate follies that are now so fashionable in Congress, then all sane Americans should thank God that the foreign ambassador in question has this unlikely power. The power is also attested, incidentally, by the virulent hatred for Israel of ultra-new leftists who are also Jewish, like Dr. Noam Chomsky. (See his latest book!)

Finally, there is Gen. Brown's forecast that serious American anti-Semitism may result from another Mid-East war accompanied by an oil embargo imposed because of U.S. aid to Israel. Every convinced advocate of U.S. aid to Israel—and there is no advocate more convinced than this reporter—has heard the same gloomy forecast from Israeli and Jewish-American friends. If the problem arises, as may well happen, it will merely be another of those problems that every decent American has to gird himself to fight and to solve from time to time.

In short, Gen. Brown mainly said in semi-private what informed and thinking Israelis and Jewish-Americans have long been saying among themselves in real privacy. Instead of denouncing Gen. Brown for anti-Semitism, it would therefore be wiser to remedy the real cause of the trouble that so worries Gen. Brown.

The real cause is the current lunacy of the leftwing Democrats and the liberal-intellectuals. Despite the Israelis, this lunacy has now left us with a defense program little richer than the weakened fake-defense program of the late Secretary Louis A. Johnson, which in turn produced the Korean War!