

The second discovery of dynamite

The following article was released to New Solidarity International Press Service by the Soviet foreign news agency, Novosti.

Alfred Nobel, the Swedish scientist, discovered dynamite. During the 1940s the Israeli terrorist Menachem Begin made clever use of this discovery and blew up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem. The explosion was a spectacular success. But I have some doubts over whether this can be considered sufficient grounds for awarding Begin, now Israel's Prime Minister, the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize, and even less, a Peace Prize he shares with the President of Egypt.

Sadat and Begin should be paid their 750,000 Swedish crowns not with a check, but rather in shekels. For this is the currency which has been paid to the Arab people of Palestine, whom the Camp David agreement has left without their own state. It is also a personal reimbursement for the \$15 million which the Israeli cabinet has decided to invest in the expansion of military settlements on the West Bank. Some cabinet members have already received partial payment **in natura** — the Prime Minister's headquarters and the Foreign Ministry are moving into new quarters in the Arab section of Jerusalem. . . .

The two "prize winners" have already congratulated each other by telephone; the Nobel Prize Committee, however, clearly has no reason to congratulate itself. The list of persons selected by the Committee has now been supplemented by the names of people whose present actions are infamous and whose past is, to put it mildly, dubious. The true heroes of the great fight for peace will certainly have complex feelings about sharing the list with a former terrorist and an agent of the Nazi secret intelligence. The former bears personal responsibility for the "Night of the Long Knives" in the Arab village Deir Yasin. In the 1940s, a squad from the Zionist terrorist organization "Irgun Zvai Leumi" under Begin's leadership butchered more than 200 peaceful inhabitants of that village, including old people, women, and children.

The latter, according to his own admission in his recently released memoirs, admires Hitler's "greatness." With such idols an enormous amount can doubtless be accomplished to realize the vision of peace.

Alfred Nobel has only one remaining consolation which will probably keep him from turning over in his grave. Two new "owners" of the prize he established have discovered dynamite for the second time. It is indeed political dynamite which they laid down in Camp David underneath the already shaky security of the people of the Mideast.

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