

Another issue, a journal titled "The Muslim Soldier," which is published by the Religious Affairs Department of the Saudi Armed Forces, recently contained an article claiming:

The majority of revolutions, coups d'etat, and wars which have occurred in the world, those that are occurring, and those that will occur, are almost entirely the handiwork of the Jews. They turned to [these methods] in order to implement the injunctions of the fabricated Torah, the Talmud, and the "Protocols [of the Elders of Zion]," all of which command the destruction of all non-Jews in order to achieve their goal—namely, world domination.

Again, these are disgusting lies that are propagated supposedly by Syria's people.

The author of an article in an Egyptian Government daily titled "The Lie About the Burning of the Jews" defended his piece on Egyptian television by saying:

This article was scientific research, which relied on many European and American sources concerning this lie, one of the lies upon which the State of Israel was established—the lie about the burning of the Jews in the Nazis' ovens.

I have been to those ovens. I have been to Auschwitz. I have seen the pictures. I have seen the ashes. Any representation like that must be refuted in places like this.

And in Syria, according to the State Department's 2003 International Religious Freedom Report, the:

Government primarily cites tense relations with Israel as the reason for barring Jews from government employment and for exempting them from military service obligations.

Despite the fact that state-sponsored anti-Semitism is more prevalent in the Arab world, it unfortunately exists in other countries as well. In certain states of India, schools are required to use textbooks that condone Nazism, including detailing its achievements and omitting any reference to Nazi extermination policies or concentration camps.

In Belarus, anti-Semitic literature is sold in government buildings and in stores directly connected with the Belarusian Orthodox Church.

The fact that this kind of hatred exists in the hearts of some people is something that we unfortunately are unable to control. But what we can do, what we must do, is express our distaste and indeed our revulsion that governments around the world feel it is appropriate to promote such hatred.

At the G-8 summit in Sea Island, Georgia, this June, President Bush reached out to our allies to establish a Partnership with the Broader Middle East and North Africa in an effort to advance freedom, democracy, and prosperity in the region. I support the President's approach for peace in the Middle East, and I believe it will only occur if the countries at stake are working together.

So I ask, if governments are actively supporting anti-Semitism and even, at times, the destruction of the Jewish

state, how will they be able to convince their populations that peaceful coexistence with Israel is an appropriate course of action? How will they expect their children to live in harmony with their Jewish peers? How will they ever reconcile their malevolent views of the Jewish people?

State-sponsored anti-Semitism around the world is a sinister fact with potentially devastating consequences. We must work tirelessly to highlight its insidious nature at every opportunity. And there are many friends in the Jewish community who ought to be thanked for their efforts to try to stem the tide of anti-Semitism: Specifically, Jess Hordes and Abe Foxman at the Anti-Defamation League for their work on this vital front as well as many of my colleagues here who stand in the Senate to bring attention to this issue.

Anti-Semitism cannot take root unless it starts in our hearts individually. If it starts in our hearts individually, it goes to our homes, our neighborhoods, our schools, and then it hits into our governments. That America never be one of those governments turned against Israel is my hope and my prayer.

I yield the floor.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, as the Senate prepares to adjourn for the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah, I would like to address a recent rise in anti-Semitic events abroad.

In the 50 years since the atrocities committed against the Jewish people in Europe during World War II, we have seen other occasional incidents of anti-Semitism. While anti-Israelism and anti-Semitism are regrettably still commonplace in the Middle East, recent events in France and Indonesia have shown us these feelings of intolerance are on the rise internationally.

Israel has a unique position in the modern world. Its cities and landmarks are sacred to Christian, Jewish, and Muslims cultures. And today, as throughout much of recorded history, it is a land struggling to find peace. Yet despite the conflicts of history and culture, Israel has had the courage to stand strong with the United States of America as an ally in the war on terror and a pillar of strength in an unstable region.

Anti-Semitism, racism, and bigotry all serve to undermine the efforts of peace loving people throughout the world. These misguided prejudices are chains that hold us back from compromise and harmony. The people of America, Europe, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia should not accept the anti-Semitism that has become all too prevalent in the world. As we work toward peace it is important that people from all nations approach international relations with an open mind.

I am pleased that my colleagues in the Senate have brought attention to the growing problem of anti-Semitism in the world today. As several of our colleagues celebrate the Jewish New Year this coming week, let us all take

the time to think about ways we can promote understanding and acceptance.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

ROSH HASHANAH

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, this evening, Jewish families and communities will come together to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and offer their prayers for a sweet and peaceful year ahead.

Growing up in Aberdeen, my family was close to three Jewish families, the Franks, Feinsteins, and the Preds. They introduced me to the Rosh Hashanah celebration. I have always remembered the warmth of their celebration as well as the generosity and friendship they offered to a young Catholic boy growing up in the neighborhood.

I wanted to take this opportunity to extend my wishes for a Shana Tova, a good year, to my friends in the Jewish community across the country and around the world.

This year, Rosh Hashanah arrives at an auspicious anniversary. This month, we mark the 350th anniversary of the first Jewish settlement in America.

In September of 1654, a small ship carrying 23 Jews from Brazil arrived at the southern tip of Manhattan.

They had been told of a new land founded in the name of religious freedom. So this small group of settlers set out across the ocean to find a home where they could live in peace and follow the tenets of their faith and the dictates of their conscience.

As has been the case with so many immigrants of every faith, from every part of the world and every generation since, they found that home in America.

Throughout the generations, the American Jewish community has been a leader in the effort to ensure that the fundamental American value of religious freedom is honored and protected.

While the history of the American Jewish community offers this Rosh Hashanah a special sweetness, the Jewish community and its friends welcome the High Holy Days with a certain anxiety, as well.

While Israel has taken important steps toward increasing its own security, Israeli families still live under the shadow of terrorism, and the Palestinian Authority has yet to take concrete steps to end the violence.

Just 2 weeks ago, two simultaneous attacks by Hamas suicide bombers took the lives of 16 Israelis. It came as a terrible reminder of the fear that continues to pervade the lives of Israelis.

In addition, friends of Israel have also watched with growing concern as Iran, which is sworn to the destruction of the Jewish state, takes steps toward becoming a nuclear power.

The instability in Iraq, if not brought under control, may one day threaten

the stability of that entire region, including Israel.

At the same time, Jews throughout the world have watched as the terrible specter of anti-Semitism re-emerges in Europe. Jewish cemeteries have been vandalized. Synagogues and Jewish schools have been the targets of terrorism. School children have been attacked for no other reason than they were identified as Jews.

At the recent Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism held by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Elie Wiesel expressed the shock and surprise shared by many of us who hoped that Europe could not so soon forget the history and lessons of the Holocaust.

"Had any pessimist told me," Wiesel said, "that in my lifetime, I would hear stories of Jews in Berlin or Paris being advised by friends not to wear a [skullcap] in the street so as not to attract hostility and peril, I would not have believed it. But it now has become reality."

Wiesel concluded by warning the conferees that "the history of Nazism teaches us that hatred is like cancer. It often grows underground, and when detected it is too late. If unchecked immediately, it will invade its natural surroundings. What began in the mind will destroy the brain. Then the heart."

The OSCE's Berlin Declaration, calling for a coordinated, international response against the crimes of anti-Semitism and racism, was an important step forward for Europe and the world. But its words must be backed with real action and commitment.

It is not enough to speak out against racist attacks. Wherever the crime of anti-Semitism is committed, the world has a shared responsibility to ensure the perpetrators are punished.

Therefore, I have asked the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom to follow through on each of the recommendations of the Berlin Declaration.

In addition, later today Senator DODD and I will send a letter to the Commission calling on it to investigate why 10 years after the bombing of the Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, none of the terrorists responsible have been brought to justice.

The United States must make a clear statement. If you wish to be a member of the family of nations, you cannot turn a blind eye to the violence of anti-Semitism and racism.

We are all bound by a common obligation to fight for justice and to fight for peace. And in a way, Rosh Hashanah can serve as a reminder of these shared responsibilities.

This year also represents another anniversary celebrated by Americans and the American Jewish community in particular. 2004 marks the centennial of the birth of one of America's greatest writers and storytellers, Isaac Bashevis Singer.

In a story entitled, "Joy," Singer tells of a Rabbi from a small Russian

village who suffers the loss of each of his six children. His faith is shaken, and he turns his back on his tradition and community. On the eve of Rosh Hashana, he sees a vision of his youngest daughter who had died many years earlier, and his faith is restored. He immediately goes to the synagogue and asks to speak. Because of the lunar calendar, Rosh Hashana always coincides with the new moon. So he asks, what is the meaning of the fact that "the moon is obscured on Rosh Hashanah?"

The answer, he says, is that "on Rosh Hashana one prays for life, and life means free choice, and freedom is mystery. . . . If hell and paradise were in the middle of the marketplace, everyone would be a saint."

"Of all the blessings bestowed on man, the greatest lies in the fact that God's face is hidden from him."

"Men are the children of the Almighty, and He plays hide and seek with them. He hides His face, and the children seek Him, while they have faith that He exists."

In a way, the search that Singer speaks of connects us all. Individually and as a nation we try to find the wisdom and the courage to do what is right, and to extend justice here at home and throughout the world.

The way may not always be clear. But alongside our friends in the Jewish community, this Rosh Hashana we can recommit ourselves to creating a world where no one, anywhere in the world, suffers the kind of persecution and violence that led that small band of Jewish settlers to flee half way across the world more than 350 years ago. The memory of their voyage and the beginning of Rosh Hashana remind us of this historic aspect of our Nation's role in the world, and call us back to our duty.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, today marks the 10th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act. We are also coming up on the 2nd anniversary of the loss of two champions of the fight to end domestic violence.

Senator Paul Wellstone was a key leader in the bipartisan effort to pass the Violence Against Women Act. And, as she was in every great cause he took on, Sheila Wellstone was Paul's indispensable partner. Paul and Sheila's commitment to ending domestic violence continues today through the work of Wellstone Action and the Sheila Wellstone Institute. This morning, Paul and Sheila's work was recalled at a gathering here in the Capitol of people who are working to protect America's families from domestic violence. We applaud them.

Much good has come about because of the Violence Against Women Act. There are more domestic abuse hotlines today than there were 10 years ago, and more shelters. There are more doctors, nurses, therapists, teachers, police officers, judges and others today who recognize the signs of domestic vi-

olence, and know how to help if they see those signs. We have made progress. But there is more we need to do.

Each year, more than 1 million women in America are victims of domestic violence, and more than 3 million American children witness domestic violence every year. Protecting the victims of domestic violence is essential but it is not enough. Next year, when Congress reauthorizes the Violence Against Women Act, we need to do more to prevent domestic violence, and to help the children who witness such violence. It's the only way we will ever break the cycle of violence.

In South Dakota, in Rapid City and on the Pine Ridge Reservation, a nonprofit organization called Sacred Circle is helping to break the cycle of violence by providing domestic violence prevention and intervention services. There are similar organizations doing good work in communities all across America—native and non-native, rich and poor.

On this 10th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act, we thank those organizations for the life-saving work they are doing. We acknowledge the victims and survivors of domestic violence. And let us also vow to do even more to finally break the cycle of domestic violence.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

ROSH HASHANAH AND HOPE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is entirely appropriate that the Senate pause today at the celebration of Rosh Hashanah. This, the people's body—the House of Representatives and the Senate—demonstrate their great respect for a very important Jewish holiday that symbolizes so much that is important not only in terms of their faith, but also underlies a very important value and spirit of this country, and that is the spirit of hope and optimism, portrayed by the dipping of apples into honey, symbolizing that one is going to have a better, more hopeful, and sweeter year. It is a message of hope, and it reminds us of a long tradition that hope is deeply rooted in a spiritual setting. It is entirely appropriate for us as a nation as well to share that sense with our Jewish friends, and also draw lessons from that very special occasion.

So I pay tribute to all of our friends who are celebrating this spiritual holiday today and thank them again for reminding us as a nation and reminding the world of that extraordinary spirit, which is reflected in that tradition and which is symbolized today in Israel in its continued struggle for existence and for religious liberty.

Mr. President, I speak today about this issue of hope, and where it is and where it is not in terms of our own society, and what I think we should be attempting to do about it.