

*New Outlook* is an English-language magazine published eight times yearly in Tel Aviv, which consistently presents some of the most informed and literate opinion on Arab-Israeli affairs. Reputation: dovish intellectual. Leadership: more widespread and influential in Europe and the U.S. than in Israel. Slant: mutual recognition between Zionist nationalism and Palestinian nationalism. Quality: excellent.

This magazine is both a cause and an institution. As a tribute to the publication's twentieth anniversary, the decision was made to sponsor an international peace symposium. The theme, "Can the Guns Fall Silent?" was motivated by Egyptian writer Mohamed Sid Ahmed's book, which a few years ago electrified intellectual thought through one of the early discussions of the nature of Middle East peace, *When the Guns Fall Silent*.

This was *New Outlook's* fifth symposium, though it will surely be the most remembered. For during the five days of meetings that brought together hundreds of Israel's and the world's most knowledgeable Middle East experts, Anwar Sadat first cabled a message to the gathering—the first such telegram ever sent from an Arab country to Israel—and then arrived in Jerusalem in one of history's most fantastic happenings.

The symposium actually outgrew the *New Outlook* staff's ability to organize properly the ever-escalating affair. There were, consequently, more than the usual frustrations. As the list of participants mushroomed in the final weeks it became evident this conference had come to serve as an international convention for much of the dovish Jewish criticism—in and out of Israel—against the new Begin government's attitude. Then, with the arrival of the Sadat telegram on the opening day, the symposium instantly was awarded a notoriety that had been totally unforeseen. Most Israelis, in fact, had never heard of *New Outlook* magazine until these events.

The journal grew out of the frustrations that arose within Israel as a result of the 1956 Israeli campaign in Sinai. The founders agreed that "unless a radical change occurred in Israeli policy, the situation would deteriorate into a series of wars, culminating in total involvement of the great powers." It

was a prophecy tragically fulfilled.

Initially, with some in-government encouragement and money, but for many years now totally independently, *New Outlook* has provided commentary, analysis, and prescriptive judgment on how to reach an Arab-Israeli reconciliation. The fostering of contact and understanding between Jews and Arabs, especially Israeli Arabs, has been the magazine's primary goal. In the most recent years *New Outlook* has been a unique forum for discussion of the Palestinian problem and the PLO. It has been the only major publication in Israel where moderate PLO spokesmen have found a forum and where the concept of a Palestinian state has been promoted. The participation for the first time of numerous West Bank Arabs in an Israeli conference was a statement in itself of *New Outlook's* importance.

The great diversity of speeches and papers prepared with pre-Sadat-visit policies in mind, of course, will still be a unique historical record of thought

when *New Outlook* soon makes them available in book form. Nahum Goldmann's keynote opening address, for instance, in which he candidly reflected on Israel's failures and on the need for an imposed settlement, served as a chilling reminder that Sadat's journey would leave the outstanding territorial and conceptual disagreements only slightly modified. Lord Caradon's passionate plea for Palestinian self-determination was also a provoking reminder to all that Zionism will remain morally scarred until a way is found to fulfill the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinians, a people also seeking some road to a national existence.

*New Outlook* has come of age with recent events. And it now faces the challenge of building its influence in an Israel that is undergoing much soul-searching about what may finally be a real path to a lasting and just peace.

American readers may subscribe to *New Outlook* by sending \$24 airmail, or \$20 surface mail, to *New Outlook* magazine, Dept. W, 8 Karl Netter Street, Tel Aviv, Israel. —Mark Bruzonsky

