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FRIDAY, DEC. 20, 1974

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71 SENATORS URGE PRES. FORD TO REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL

MICHAEL MARTIN BAR MITZVAH

Michael Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Martin, who will become a Bar Mitzvah during services at Temple Beth Shalom, on Saturday morning, December 21, 1974.

Rabbi Philip Shnairson, spiritual leader of the Temple, will officiate and conduct the services which commence at 9:00 A.M. Cantor Joseph Kohn will chant the liturgy. The parents of the Bar Mitzvah will host the congregation to a



MICHAEL

Kiddush in the Temple Social Hall immediately after the services.

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- A bi-partisan group of 71 senators, representing nearly three-quarters of the Senate, has written a letter to President Ford urging him to reaffirm American commitment to the survival and integrity of Israel and to mobilize the allies of the United States toward returning the United Nations to the principles of its charter.

The senators declared they were "deeply disturbed by the UN vote to give recognition to the Palestine Liberation Organization and by the spectacle of Western cynicism, apathy and disunity." They added that the UNESCO decision to withhold aid to Israel is a "shameful example of the transformation of the international humanitarian organization into a political weapon."

At a press conference announcing the letter, Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R.N.Y.) disclosed that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger had told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the U.S. has "never suggested to Israel that it negotiate with the PLO as long as the PLO has not accepted the legitimacy of the existence of Israel." Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D. Minn.) stressed that the 71 senators were not recommending U.S. withdrawal from the UN but that they did not want the UN to go the way of the League of Nations, "powerless and useless." He said the U.S. should stress that the UN relate to member states and not political movements such as the PLO.

Meanwhile in Jerusalem, the Israel UNESCO Committee in conjunction with Education Mini-

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TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



To Our Christian Friends

(IN THIS ERA OF ECUMENISM WE BRING YOU THE FOLLOWING COLUMN PREPARED IN 1961 AND REPRINTED ANNUALLY IN THE EDITION BEFORE DEC. 25TH.)

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa.

And there are Christmas trees, too!

No one asked but an innocuous wire service story, datelined Vatican City, and printed in the local press may have caused some concern among our neighbors.

The story quotes a Vatican weekly newspaper saying Santa Claus represents a "monstrous substitution" for the Christ Child and "offends the faith."

The editorial in L'Osservatore delle Domenica also assailed the Christmas tree as "an attempt to substitute for the crib... and a certain sense of naturalism and paganism."

The objection apparently stems from the general public's acceptance of St. Nick and the tree as indicative of the holiday to the gradual exclusion of the true religious conception, the Nativity.

A strict religious interpretation of the Holy day should unquestionably be total reverence and complete compliance with the Holy Writ. Those devout souls among us always have and will continue to adhere to the rigid theological celebration of the occasion and no amount of persuasion (if attempted) could dissuade them.

But Christmas Day with no distraction from all the solemnity it stands for, has, through the centuries grown, expanded, magnified into a spirit of Christmas. What started as a one-day observance is now a weeks-long holiday. What began with personal greetings of cheer from one to another is now the exchange of hundreds of millions of cards expressing joy. What commenced as an occasion for the discreet dispensation of charity for the less fortunate has developed into the indiscriminate giving and receiving of gifts. The once simple recreation of one's version of the Crib has developed into addenda like trees, holly wreaths, tinsel and lights.

An occasion that was originally celebrated by just those of the Christian faith, now finds other sects, religions and beliefs looking forward to and rejoicing in the spirit of Christmas.

The metamorphosis of Christmas was not a straight, smooth road from the way it was, to what it is. There were bypaths, drawbacks, tangents and obstacles created by the natural course of history through the ages.

While Santa Claus is obviously a result of

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ALLON: MIDEAST TALKS FLUID, UNCERTAIN

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's talks with American leaders appear to indicate that the negotiating process in the Middle East is both fluid and uncertain.

Allon had a 75-minute meeting with President Ford after which White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen in a "notice to the press" said the Israeli official assured Ford that the Israeli government shares his views of the importance

of moving ahead in the Mideast toward a genuine peace settlement. Nessen said both sides reviewed "possible approaches to this next stage of negotiations" and stressed that Ford and Allon "expressed satisfaction with the excellent state of relations between the United States and Israel."

Allon who held a total of seven hours of meetings with Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger, later told a press conference "it is too premature to decide how, when and what" will be the future negotiating process. He said he had been making "preliminary inquiries toward achieving 'better progress' in the Mideast. Allon said that the discussions with Kissinger were in the "most friendly way as usual" while Kissinger noted that they had been "very constructive and very positive."

Allon said his meeting with Ford "helped clarify the situation," an apparent reference to the President's statement a month ago putting the Palestine Liberation Organization and Jordan on an equal footing for negotiations.

YAHREZITS TONIGHT AT BETH SHOLOM

(Friday, Dec. 20, 1974)

Samuel Wolpert
Louis Fellenbaum
Mayer H. Meltzer
Benjamin Spector
Isaac Diamondstone
Abraham Silverman
Isaac Laxer
Albert Waller
Joseph Turchinsky
Sam Okin
Maurice D. Blonsley

Etta Israelson
Dora Schlofsky
Rose Gasner
Minnie Friedman
Mollie Weiner
Sarah Spiegel
Ethel Elias
Lillian Rosenberg
Nellie Ferer Blewisse
Betty Beckwith



THE VARIETY CLUB, PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION AND THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAVE COMBINED EFFORTS TO PROVIDE AUTOMATIC DOORS FOR HANDICAPPED YOUNGSTERS ATTENDING VARIETY SCHOOL. HERE OFFICERS OF THE VARIETY SCHOOL PTA AND VARIETY CLUB FORMALLY MAKE THEIR PRESENTATION TO STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT PAT WALLIN. FROM LEFT, HARRY WHITE, BILL SESTITO, ELEANOR GOLDBERG, WALLEN AND SAMMY COHEN.