

SCRANTON'S FIRST UN APPEARANCE

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- William W. Scranton made his first appearance at the UN last Friday as the new U.S. Ambassador and met with the press corps here after having presented his credentials to Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim.

As the smiling American spokesman entered the press room he set a precedent by going to each of the many correspondents with

a greeting and a firm handshake.

Asked whether or not he would introduce any change from the well-known dynamic Moynihan approach to the world organization, he replied that while no two people have the same style, "we have no disagreement as to the basic U.S. policy. I am a strong adherent of Moynihan," he said "and I fully support the position that he had taken. If we are

attacked, I will defend our policy."

On a question posed by this writer as to how he views the Middle East situation, he first of all brought up the much-talked about statement he had made some years ago on what he had termed an "even-handed policy."

"We must remember," he stated, "that when I made that statement in the year 1968, the Soviets were posing a threat to the entire Middle East -- in Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Jordan. A major change has taken place since then in the Mideast," not least of all the "step-by-step" approach so successfully achieved by Henry Kissinger for whom he had the highest praise.

In reply to another question relative to the anti-Zionist resolution, he was em-

phatic in stating that he would continue in the Moynihan approach in opposing any further attempt to equate "Zionism with racism." "Zionism," he declared, "is a national movement, not a racist one." Pressed by an Arab correspondent on this issue, he repeated his statement that "Zionism is not racism."

Asked about the PLO and their Observer status in the UN, he made it crystal clear that the United States has no interest in having the PLO participate in any of the talks relating to the Middle East. Asked to explain, he said "We have good reasons."

Scranton decried the formation of so many conflicting blocs in the UN. "It's against the very ideals for which the UN was originally created and can only serve to diminish hopes for peaceful settlement of disputes," he stated.

The new U.S. Ambassador, appearing hale and hearty and in a real friendly mood, is married to the former Mary Lowe Chamberlin.

Joe Behar of Las Vegas was recently appointed to the Nevada Historic Preservation Review Committee by Gov. Mike O'Callaghan.

In his spare time, Joe enjoys being involved in community activities. A board member of such organizations as T.A.S.I., Nevada Family, Albert Einstein Hebrew Day School, Red Cross and a member of the Democratic Central Committee as well as the Las Vegas Voluntary Action Center.

Joe Behar's love for the theatre has him donating his



JOE

time each Wednesday night as the founder and director of the Theatre Arts Society, Inc. T.A.S.I. drama workshops. It is free to the community 7 - 10 p.m. at the Reed Whipple Center.

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