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BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

It is a Goliath, that anti - gun control monolith in America, epitomized by the National Rifle Association with 1,800,000 members ready to spring into lobbying action anytime the bell for action rings.

Guns Out of Control

At last there is a David who should be able to topple the giant. This is a David named Ronald Reagan. Even though he is himself a member of the NRA and one who, in campaigning for the high office he holds, stood firmly with his Party's platform plank in opposition to gun control he would now have most of the aroused citizenry with him if he decided to crusade for a federally - effective deterrent.

He won the admiration of millions by the courage and sharp humor he put to use when he was shot. But he knows that the modern epidemic of handgun killings -- some 20,000 a year -- is no joking matter. The President could change the dismal picture.

Until young John Hinckley took aim at Mr. Reagan with his \$47 weapon, the tide was running the other way. The only federal handgun control bill on the books passed in 1968 in the wake of the Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King assassinations, was watered down in 1969. And just a few days before Hinckley's bullet nearly ended the President's life, reports from Washington indicated that the 1968 law appeared on its way to the discard pile.

The President must be familiar with what his daughter. Maureen, said the day of the shooting: "I think the American people have got to become angry about the crime in this country, about the ability of people to do this to other human beings. We've got to stop it and we've got to stop it now."

State gun control laws help to a degree. New York and Massachusetts have such legislation. But there's a difference of opinion about the effectiveness of mandatory sentencing at a state level to halt the damage done by handguns. (Handgun Control, Inc., crusading with vigor to arouse public opinion, claims these weapons are used in the injury rape, or death of 250,000 Americans annually; further, that 20,000 others die as a result of handgun violence each year).

The likelihood that a handgun owner, bent on killing a President or anyone else, will cross states lines makes it clear that it's federal action that's needed now. Senator Strom Thurmond (R.S.C.), Chairman of the Senate. Judiciary Committee, continues to believe gun control legislation will not "affect these crimi-



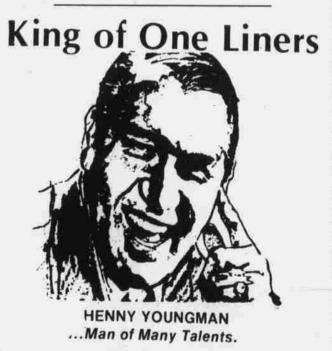
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nals;" but at least, he is initiating a federal proposal calling for prison sentences for those using guns while committing federal crimes.

Meanwhile, spokesmen for the National Rifle Association cling to their strict interpretation of the Second Amendment holding that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. Increasingly, they emphasize that guns are needed to protect families, that the police could never keep up with the paper work called for when gun control laws are passed, and that, of course, it's not the guns, it's the gun - wielder that does the damage.

Well spoken. And if she and thousands of newly - aroused citizens would support Senator Ted Kennedy in his valiant fight to toss out the garbage and show willingness to compromise with the gun hardliners, we might be on our way to meeting a fierce challenge. The Kennedy proposal would leave Americans free to own pistols for target shooting and hunting. It would essentially prohibit the manufacture, sale, transfer importation, and assembly of small, cheap handguns.

We pride ourselves on being progressive. Japan, the Netherlands, England, West Germany all have made advances in stopping gun violence. We have a call to end our carnage.



1 JUST BOUGHT A LITTLE ITALIAN CAR. IT'S CALLED A MAFIA. THERE'S A HOOD UNDER THE HOOD. TELL TALES

Constitutes A Majority"

(Continued from Page 1)

only a small number of those arrested by the Argentine Regime or of those among the tens of thousands of the "disappeared ones," Jews are singled out for especially harsh treatment. The Anti - Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee have also documented anti - Semitic activities in Argentina, including the bombing of Jewish synagogues and centers, the widespread dissemination of Nazi tracts and libel that Jews want to seize Patagonia and establish a Jewish state there. In addition, many Jews, including Jacob Kovadloff, who represented the AJCommittee in Argentina, have been forced to flee the country for fear of their lives and that of their families.

But, in Kirkpatrick's world view, there is no need to characterize Argentina "as uniquely anti - Semitic in our time." Why not? Would this upset her delicately formulated category of "authoritarianism" or "totalitarianism?" Long hit the proverbial nail on the head when he dismissed these abstract philosophical categories by noting that the Administration's lifting of the grain embargo against the Soviet Union and its proposed arms sale to Argentina demonstrates that it is wil'ing to deal with any government "no matter how despicable if it is in its own economic interests."

in its own economic interests." And Professor Louis Henkin of Columbia University, a noted legal expert must have had Kirkpatrick in mind when he told a session of the AJCommittee's 75th anniversary meeting in Washington: "There may be differences between so - called authoritarian and so-called totalitarian governments -- but --- it is not obvious that it is better to disappear in Argentina than to rot in a Russian gulag."

Behind The Scenes

By David Horowitz A World-Union Press Feature

Peace Plan For Lebanon

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- Gideon Rafael, who had served as Israel's Ambassador to the UN during the critical days of the Six Day War and later as the envoy to the Court of St. James in London, met with old colleagues here in the press last week at a special briefing chaired by this writer.

The occasion of Mr. Rafael's visit to the United States marked the publication by Stein and Day of his 400 - page book entitled "Destination Peace -- Three Decades of Israeli Foreign policy." Divided into four parts, Confrontation, Consolidation, Conflagration and Conciliation, the volume, masterfully written, presents a full and detailed history of Israel's struggle since its independence in 1948 involving almost every aspect of its evolutionary development as a sovereign State.

Having served under all of Israel's Prime Ministers from Ben - Gurion to Begin, and nearly all Foreign Secretaries from Sharett to Dayan, Gideon Rafael is uniquely qualified to portray their differing personalities, their diplomatic methods, their interrelations and their impact on the Jewish State's political fortunes -- and all this he does in a manner that brings into vivid focus every important political event that has played an historic role in the shaping of the nation.

During Rafael's encounter with the press corps, he spoke at length about his many years of experiences in the Foreign Ministry and as Ambassador to the UN and the United Kingdom. He then turned to the latest crisis in Lebanon and presented what he termed a personal seven-