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Mutual Esteem

BY RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM

The time is past due for talking some calm, rational sense about the recent meeting of Pope John Paul II and the PLO's Yasir Arafat. That controversial meeting has resulted in considerable stress in Catholic-Jewish relations.

Much of the anger in the Jewish community was appropriately in response to the inexplicable fact that the Pope would even agree to meet with the PLO's Arafat, the chief architect of international terrorism. Arafat, after all, was responsible for the massacre of tens of thousands of Christians, Muslims, as well as Jews.

The photograph of the Pope and Arafat became the chief provocation for it suggested to the world that the Holy See somehow sanctioned the murderous actions of this arch terrorist. But the embittered reactions to the provocative picture must not be allowed to obscure what actually went on during that meeting.

We know from reliable sources that the Pope forcefully demanded that Arafat's PLO give up their violence and terrorism, that the PLO stop its killing of innocent civilians in Lebanon and Israel, that they recognize Israel's right to security and that Jerusalem remain unified with appropriate international guarantees.

These positions are far closer to those of Israel and the Jewish people than they are to the PLO and the Arab extremists. To ignore those important statements by the Pope is to hand the PLO another political victory.

During the past 20 years, Catholics and Jews have made great progress in mutual understanding. Sweeping emotional charges and counter-charges on all sides must be contained in order not to impede future progress in what has rightly been called the "revolution of mutual esteem" between Catholics and Jews.

Behind The Scenes

At The United Nations

By David Horowitz

A World-Union Press Feature

Ungrateful Gemayel

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- In our previous column we referred to the untold number of genuine friends of Israel in the Christian world and noted how greatly the Judeo-Christian concept has had an impact on this world. We

cited several of such friends and promised to let you hear of some of them. However, before we quote them something happened here at the UN that we cannot pass by. It concerns a 'Christian' Arab leader who appears to have sold his soul for the sake of expediency.

Totalling lacking in courage and in an apparent spirit of capitulation to those influences responsible for anarchy in his nation, President Amin Gemayel appeared here at the UN last week and addressed the General Assembly and later the Security Council in a tone and voice which seemingly betrayed his own people, both Christians and Moslems, who had hailed the Israelis this summer as liberators. He spoke as if there had been no Israeli "Peace for Galilee" operation, no wiping out of the PLO murderers, the root cause for his country's problems, no cleansing of the nation in preparation for its full independence which led to a situation making it possible for him to address the world organization as a head of state.

Ungrateful is the only term which entered many minds as he spoke; viciously ungrateful. While he did mention the civil war during which some 100,000 Lebanese were killed, he appeared to have placed the main blame for his nation's troubles on Israel. He spoke of the "recurring Israeli invasions and incursions into our land..." without explaining why these incursions took place, namely, that they were aimed against those PLO armed elements who had brought Lebanon to the brink of ruin.

Gemayel failed to speak out and let the world know the truth. "The war blurred many images," he told the UN. "We could not, for example, tell who was the true friend and who was the foe." He knew only too well that the PLO and the Syrians were the foes and Israel the true friend. "All seemed to be bent on the destruction of our peaceful way of life. We feared that the war would lead either to partition or to annexation," he declared and, if he was honest, he might have added 'partition by the PLO' or the threat of 'annexation' by Syria.

The timid young Gemayel, in his obvious attempt to win Arab and Soviet support, overplayed his card by terming the Israelis aggressors and, as to the massacre at the Sabra and Shatila camps involving an operation by Phalangists, he was quoted by the French paper Le Monde in an interview as having absolved the Phalangists and accused Israel. "The responsibility is borne by Israel for the massacres in Sabra and Shatila," he is cited as having said, "and the Phalangists had nothing to do with it." Incredible, how can anyone trust such a leader.

During a visit to Lebanon in July -- a time when the Israeli Defense Forces had practically destroyed the PLO terrorists and entrapped Arafat's remnant in Beirut -- this writer witnessed a spirit of euphoria among Christians and Moslems all through the nation. All those interviewed expressed deep gratitude to the Israelis for having rid Lebanon of the terrorists.

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TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
 Constitutes A Majority"

(Continued from Page 1)

non's integrity was certainly challenged. Santini endorsed Cannon after the primary, but the damage was done.

Mr. Hecht's strategy was to do nothing. No speeches. No debates. No dirt slinging. Nothing. He was only around when President Ronald Reagan came to town (twice) to endorse him. As did Vice President Bush and of course, Sen. Paul Laxalt.

The do-nothing plan paid off. The people voted against Howard Cannon and for Ronald Reagan, not especially for Mr. Hecht.

Now we know Chic Hecht for a long time. He is a very successful businessman, former State Senator and a devoted family man. We believe he will make an excellent U.S. Senator. He is a 30-year Nevadan, very dedicated to the state and is a nice guy. He is even a Rebel (basketball) Booster, so he's gotta be great.

He also happens to be Jewish. We even worship at the same synagogue. So Israel gets another strong friend in Washington at a vital time in her history.

He decided to enter the Senate race against almost insurmountable odds of beating Howard Cannon. He won fair and square and we tip our hat to Sen. Chic Hecht.

King of One Liners



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A GIRL WHO SAYS SHE'LL GO THROUGH ANYTHING FOR A MAN USUALLY HAS HIS BANK ACCOUNT IN MIND.