

BENJAMIN HOOKS, Cont'd from page two

demanding that every precaution against besmirching or destroying the credibility of so worth a diplomat and statesman be taken.

We furthermore underscored the fact that the Ambassador was first of all following instructions of his government in seeking a postponement of the scheduled U.N. Security Council meeting on the Middle East question. But even more important was Mr. Youn's right to take into consideration the human side in the question of peace.

This is a natural tendency for Black Americans, who historically have tremendous sympathy with deprived people wherever they are. Granted, Mr. Young, as U.N. Ambassador, was not acting as representative of just black people but of all Americans, but it should also be remembered that one of the considerations that was paramount in President Carter's selecting him for the world body post was the recognition of the humanistic side of the man and other ideal qualities.

In the difficult problems of intercultural relations, we too must take into consideration forthrightly, the human component. There is no way that there can be sides where simple humanity is concerned. Moreover, the key to a peaceful world is a resolution of the profound differences that separate and divide peoples for whatever reason.

In our view, this is what the enlightened foreign policy of the U.S. under this administration is all

about. It equates the Israeli child, the Palestinian child, the Egyptian child, the Vietnamese child, the Nicaraguan child with our own children particularly in this International Year of the Child.

We therefore applaud all efforts to have people talking, conferring, and understanding one another, and it ought to be the function of our government as a leader of the free world to bring people together for this purpose.

We believe that what Ambassador Young did was aimed at this objective. We further believe that this search for ways to be evenhanded and fair-minded must be pursued, because by doing what is best for everybody, we do what is best for America.

This had not been a time for arrogance or intransigence, but a time for a mutuality and tempered dialogue. We believe that all thoughtful Americans of all faiths and persuasions concur in these views.

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