

Sam and Joe (plus others),

3/24/93

I did not send you Meachum's column when it appeared not to avoid desecrating Florida, shul or condo, but because we were into too much then. For the same reason I did not take the time for copies of what I wrote. I was confident that the papers would publish what I wrote so I knew I'd be copying that for you. It gives enough of that outrageous column to reflect the whole outrageous mess. If you want, or if as I think this should be called to the ADL's attention, I have it and can provide copies.

The editing is reflected by three dots. Reading indicates no other changes were made, but I'm not checking to see and am more than satisfied.

More than satisfied because this is the ~~fastest~~ response time by far. Nine days between the time his and this appeared. Usually it has been about a month.

The local rabbi has yet to poop, the ADL has yet to poop, the congregation was told by the rabbi to ignore ^{and me, and} him, he would go away. Like some said Hitler would.

The amiable rabbi is like an average yeshiva bucher and the ADL-nid~~are~~ big for the social events for raising money

It is 2:30 p.m. and not a Jew has called me about his column or mine.

He says the only Jewish army in the world exists only to kill women and children and all the local Jews are silent. *Real men!!*

There are a few local professional Arabs and a gentile married to an ^{artichoke} Arab woman. Lately they've not tackled me. Well, not all that lately. The more my responses are printed the less frequently he gives me a target.

To make the speed of publication of my response possible I wrote this as soon as I read his Hitlerism at all the grand mufti and drove into town to mail it. The paper may have had it that night and the editor of that page had it the next morning.

I'm glad it appears the day the FBI confirms the Egyptian ~~haxi~~ shišk's ^{the paper} followed ~~it~~ and Egypt identified as the WTC bombing ring-leader was captured in Egypt and is to be shipped here. That will be tomorrow's followup in the ~~going~~ paper and should appear along with this in the ~~leao~~ local p.m. paper.

To the paper's credit (John Bircher ownership) it included my criticism of it.

Why the publisher continues with the illusion that Meachum contributes class because of his prior experiences I cannot understand. Meachum is not popular with the staff.

H *[Signature]*

Harold Weisberg

Dredging the sewers of indecency and immorality

Roy Meachum, Frederick's master of three-monkeys journalism - he speaks no evil, sees no evil, hears no evil of anything Arabic - exceeds himself (no mean accomplishment) in his March 17 column.

In it he attributes the World Trade Center bombing to the extremist Arabs, justifies that murderous outrage, and concludes that it is "only the first payment on a long-overdue moral debt, costing more innocent lives."

We've got it and more coming to us, is what he says!

Meachum proves all over again (when didn't he in any column on the tragedy of the Middle East?) that there is no indecency, no immorality of which he is not capable.

And, as always in those columns, he misinforms his readers and rewrites history, past and present.

His inciting ... readers to join him in hatred of Israel is illustrated by what makes understandable his earlier column actually proclaiming that Hitler was coerced into anti-Semitism: the "Israeli Defence (sic) Force has been turned to the basic function of punishing and killing women and children."

In this he has gone through the bottom of the barrel and dredges the sewers of indecency, immorality and deliberate lying. Even for him, it is a new low in misusing the space the papers pay him to use.

He even blamed Sadat for his own assassination, misrepresenting it as that: "The act resulted directly ... by public execution. He was found guilty of unfulfilled expectations, the same 'crime' that caused the latest round of killings."

What this "latest round of killing" is he does not say. He implies that it is the terrible New York bombing and the killing and injuring of so



many innocent Americans.

Nor does he say who killed Sadat. Egypt says it was followers of the Arab leader with whom those already proven to be involved in the New York slaughter are associated.

Typical of his propaganda guised as columns he does not say what these alleged "unfulfilled expectations" are. This offense, serious in one who boasts of himself as a journalist, is actually a big lie, big even for this master of them.

Sadat was killed because he signed a peace treaty with Israel. ... Part of Meachum's omnipresent rewriting

history is: "Old leaders, like Syria's Assad, Iraq's Hussein and Egypt's Mubarak, have been reduced to hollow figures, dependent completely on bayonets and bribes for their continuance in office."

There is no present Muslim state, none of Meachum's lifetime, of which this was not true. There is none that is a real democracy, and most are open tyrannies, one of the most important reasons for their rulers' hatred of Israel and incitations against that one truly democratic society in that part of the world.

He actually argues that the "new and violent philosophy," a polite way of referring to the most extreme and irrational Arab terrorism, is justified and necessary - should take control of the Arab world.

Why? Because it is "rooted in the complete despair that Islamic people can expect any good from trusting industrialized nations." Read the United States and Israel.

The despair of the Arab masses comes from the corruption, the greed and the wrong and evil policies of the tyrants who rule them. Which means some of the world's very wealthiest could have relieved the misery of their masses if they gave a damn, who could have led those masses into the modern world and decent lives. Only that would lead to a little freedom and that would get them overthrown. So, those who control the astounding wealth from their control of most of the world's petroleum, tyrants without exception, are not to Meachum those whom their people should "expect any good." It is the United States and Israel that deny it in this convoluted rewriting of reality

to convert another great tragedy into more of Meachum's unending incitations of anti-Semitism and Israel-hating.

Misrepresenting the intermittent Middle East peace conferences entirely - they have been aborted by Arab intransigence and propaganda - Meachum blames the United States for that, too, and for that additional reason he justifies the terrorism he says we should expect and deserve:

"I fear very much the World Trade Towers will prove *only the first payment of a long overdue moral debt costing innocent blood.*"

When he can write this monstrous justification of the barbarous slaughter of innocent Americans, the other monumental costs of that bombing aside, there is no indecency, no incitation to hatred, no fabrication of any kind, that will not be published.

How horrible it is that with the assorted dishonesties, only some of which are indicated above, he actually blames this "nation" for the terrorism of Arabs who to him can do no wrong. ...

When this catalogue of vicious fabrication designed to inspire hatred can be published there is nothing that cannot be if he writes it. His justification of Arab terrorism should be remembered because he tells us more is coming, we deserve it, and it may be even in Frederick.

"This is only the first payment" to the United States "on a long overdue debt," according to Shiek Meachum.

Harold Weisberg writes from Frederick.