

Editor  
News-Post  
Frederick, Md. 21701

6/3/86

Dear Editor,

Your half-man Arab propaganda office in residence, Roy Meachum, while this time claiming not to be anti-Semitic, is more viciously anti-Semitic than in the long series of <sup>his</sup> outrageous stuff you published. Without, to this date, any manifestation of self-respect or regret for his defense of a now indicted murderer of only the innocent by his heroic alleged freedom fighter who masterminded the terrorism of the cruise ship and the murder of an aged and ill American, along with his wheelchair.

One of the traditional devices of anti-Semites, including Hitler and his Holocausters, is the pretend that all Jews are alike and agree and that if one Jew is alleged to be bad, all are. <sup>at all</sup> No individual guilt (where indeed there was none) was alleged in the pogroms, from which my people fled Russia, or by Hitler. The alleged crime was merely being a Jew.

This is the essence of Meachum's evil misrepresentation in his today's "Venomous Vidal and the Israeli Lobby," in which the reader is able to identify only Norman Podhoretz and his unnamed wife, Midge Decter, and Ben Mattemberg as this alleged Israeli lobby <sup>of Jews and others currently oppose</sup> and their to Meachum current crime of successfully opposing the sale of, among other things, more than 1,500 hand-held missiles capable of and designed to shoot down airplanes. Meachum doesn't mention this, or the destination, Saudi Arabia, or its anti-democratic and anti-Semitic record, or its support for 40 years of an assortment of violence-prone Arab dictators and terrorists. Of course there is lobbying for Israel, which happens to be the staunchest ally <sup>of</sup> the United States in that part of the troubled world, and in a representative society there is nothing wrong with lobbying per se. It is a Constitutional right. But there is much wrong with Meachum's gross misrepresentations, ~~beginning with the fact that~~ the overwhelming opposition to the sale of this equipment for murder to the Saudis was not by Jews alone and not by any lobby alone. It stems from ~~what is his persisting prejudice and lack of honesty~~ <sup>Meachum withholds from your readers</sup> fear of what might happen with all that equipment once it got into Saudi hands.

Podhoretz and his ilk, on whom Meachum wants your readers to focus and who he represents as all Jews and the Israeli lobby, are particularly well suited to illustrate Meachum's dishonesty, ignorance or both. Podhoretz, a Jew, edits the magazine "Commentary," ~~along with his wife~~. In 1966 he got another Jew, Judge Arnold Fein, to attack me, also a Jew, over my writing that when John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas and it then was not a violation of any federal law, Texas law controlled and should

have been respected by the federal authorities who instead kidnapped the corpse by force. So much for all Jews thinking and being alike, so much for Podhoretz and his pimping judge.

Meachum's pretense for this newer and more outrageous anti-Semitism is that he and he alone simply must respond to Ben Wattenberg's syndicated Podhoretz-line article that you published: "By going to far Podhoretz and Wattenberg made necessary my entry into what should have been left to the private confines of their literary circles." Who the hell is this sick-ego Meachum that he dares to tell these with whom I very strongly disagree where they may say what they want to say? ~~who is the hell ordained Meachum God?~~ Is there never going to be any limit to your indulgence of both his ego and his prejudices?

So sick is Meachum's ego, so unlimited his sense of unique knowledge and self-importance that he is compelled even to try to put down "The Nation." He describes it to the majority of your readers who never see it as "a magazine that exists in relative obscurity to serve one segment of the country's self-anointed intellectuals." To anyone familiar with the laudible record of The Nation for the past century it is obvious that it has consistently published the finest writings of the finest American thinkers and writers, and arrogant, ego-ridden Meachum is not fit to get near its ancient hellbox. If Meachum were at all familiar with what it has published only recently, if he were not, in effect, on the side of the Nazis, he'd be telling your readers not what he skims from the gutter of his prejudices but that more than a week before CBS-TV News followed up on it The Nation published the fact that Kurt Waldheim, who, like Meachum, pretends he is not an anti-Semite, in fact wrote his theses on the <sup>Frantz</sup> pan-German philosophy later adopted by Hitler and that Waldheim praised Frantz, who was a virulent anti-Semite. Does this serve only "one segment of the country's self-anointed intellectuals?" (Which in and of itself is a shameful formulation of which no decent man or honest writer ought be capable.)

That Meachum intends anti-Semitism, toward the end in the favorite phrase of his Arab bedmates, is reflected in his shifting to Zionist as a synonym for Jews, at the part where he represents that Mac Mathias is their victim. ~~Mac Mathias~~ Meachum ~~as God~~ represents himself as the world's authority on "Jewish tradition," no less. He says that the Israeli lobby, which <sup>a</sup>remains undescribed to your readers except in terms of his prejudices and the words of his venom, these Zionists, "steamroller opponents with smears that are themselves in violation of Jewish tradition and teachings. Anyone who questions their methods must be anti-Semitic, they scream."

There is, of course, no support for this in the column and there can't be because it does not exist, in either an impartial formulation or in Meachum's "scream" of



his own bile. And Mathias, he claims, "earned their undying enmity and thus, inferentially because of this alleged "steamroller" and these alleged "smears" - look again, one follows the other in his column. Mac decided not to run. Not because of the futility of his being his kind of Republican in the Reagan administration, not because the Reaganites gypped him out of what he was entitled to in the Senate. According to Meachum because Jews were out to get Mac. He falls short of these words only literally for they are his clear meaning. How does omniscient Meachum know that we Jews (all of whom that I know love and revere Mac) were "responsible for his decision not to run again?" Because Meachum never asked him" and because Mac and former Senator Charles Percy "were close; they belong to the moderate ~~Republican~~ Republican wing." ~~But~~ But if Meachum, who pretends omniscience while he flaunts ignorance, could not ask Mac, could he not remember, keeping up with things as he claims to, that it is the other than moderate Republican wing that purged Percy and others, could not this thought suggest itself?

Obviously it couldn't because without ~~it~~ <sup>this misrepresentation Meachum would</sup> he not have this newest anti-Semitic garbage, all this evil diatribe that without any pretense of modesty ~~and~~

*that* Meachum then describes as "reality."

He ~~ends~~ ends his filth that is traditional anti-Semitism with what in it also is traditional: "I am concerned for the people whom I love," the people allegedly victimized by his Israeli lobby/Zionists/smear artists/steamroller operators. And he follows this with a threat: "American Jews will suffer when the inevitable reaction sets in." This, too, historically, is traditional anti-Semitism, the pretense of anti-Semites that they would protect Jews allegedly from themselves.

Beginning with Vidal and Podhoretz and ending with Mathias, it is all an evil pretense by a propagandist, a vehicle for another of his anti-Semitic outbursts, a prostitution of journalism at a time when the Reaganites - the real haters of the Percys and Mathiases - are pressing for arms that can be used against Americans as well as Israelis by the Saudis despite overwhelming opposition in the Congress *and the country.*

Has Meachum, in all his writings as a "self-anointed" middle-east expert, ever bothered to tell your readers that Saudi Arabia, as well as all other Arab countries except recently Egypt, are and have been in a state of war with Israel beginning 40 years ago when it became a nation? Can he or you think of a reason for American Jews to support with modern, sophisticated arms, a dictatorship that is at war with Israel? Should any Americans want this or want those arms to risk being used, as so many we have provided others, against our own people and other innocents?

Only half a man could be capable of this evil, this misleading of your readers, this dishonesty and this incitation to race hatred.

I am again disappointed that Meachum's anti-Semitism is not edited, if read ~~as your papers~~ critically, as editing requires. Sincerely,

*Harvey*

HAROLD WEISBERG  
7627 OLD RECEIVER RD.  
FREDERICK, MD 21701

6/3/86

Dear Bob Martin,

Until we spoke a few minutes ago I was not aware of your new 40-line limit on letters and I can see that on most issues this is necessary and reasonable. I do not believe that with complex matters and extensive misrepresentation adherence to this rule is fair and reasonable.

I do not question Meachum's right to be pro-Arab and anti-Semitic and I do not question the papers right to have this as its editorial policy. I do, however, question his or the paper's right to false pretense about the content of his columns or, if it be that, the paper's policy.

It is not as though this is the first time with Meachum and it is not that he has ever attempted to refute my responses. He hasn't and he can't.

I mentioned Percy and Mathias when we spoke because Percy, as a matter of record, was not defeated by Jews and because Jews are not responsible for Mac's decision not to run again.

If nobody at the papers is informed enough to know whether or not Meachum is truthful in what he writes and suggests, it is a sorry situation and both the papers and their readers are hurt by it.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg