

Mr. Mike Powell
News-Post
Frederick, Md. 21701

2/15/88

Dear Mike,

You may have no control over it but it is shameful to continue to publish Meachum's rotten and ill-intended atrocities.

It has become quite unfair, if the result of what is intended as fairness, to delay for so long any effort to try to tell the truth to your readers.

Aside from what I've sent you I've written, with the usual haste, several things I mailed to myself to show how easy it is to call the shots on him because he does not intend honesty and because he does say and you print the first thing that pops into his mind.

I'll send them to you with the dated envelopes still sealed in a while.

I do think that today's column raises substantial ethical questions because he repeats what has been called to his attention as lies. He has had ample time to show they are not lies and he hasn't.

I suggest that this now involves the integrity of the papers.

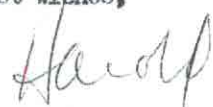
They know he lied and today they ~~say~~^{repeat} what he hasn't even denied are lies.

This is no longer the mere expression of a privileged opinion.

I ask you to ask yourself if it will not be unfair to delay considering use of the enclosed for a couple of week.

I think it should appear promptly and hope you'll agree.

Best wishes,


Harold Weisberg

Roy Meachum

More madness



2/15/85

The news from Israel has remained much the same since last this column considered the occupied territories. Each day brings report of more Palestinians shot or beaten to death by security forces.

Four American physicians visited the Gaza Strip and the West Bank last week. After inspecting hospitals and examining X-rays, they concluded a pattern existed of deliberate maimings by the occupation army.

On Friday, Washington announced Secretary of State George Shultz would begin a new round of Middle East shuttle-diplomacy later this month. The secretary is looking to arrange a peace conference acceptable to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, a man who fought bitterly against the Camp David accords. The outlook for Mr. Shultz's success is not bright.

In its continuing crisis, Israel's greatest threat looms from its "friends." Rep. Jack Kemp comes first to mind, as an example. The New York Republican threw his full weight behind the bill that closed down the Palestine Liberation Organization's Washington office, and now poses an imminent threat to its New York office, which serves principally as the base for the PLO's official observer at the United Nations. The bill swept through both branches of Congress with little opposition. Timing certainly helped.

In early December, the Gaza Strip uprisings seemed little more than yet another series of demonstrations, destined for another quick ending at the hands of security forces.

Mr. Kemp and the bill's other sponsors announced they meant "to send a message." They did. Actually, it came in several parts.

The first message was that a very hard-fought election year was under way. Few active politicians want to face the juggernaut that has swept from office, in previous races, a string of prominent figures accused of being "soft" in their support of Israel.

The new law's announced intention of combatting terrorism made no sense. The only American citizen to die on U.S. soil from a terrorist act was Alex Odeh, a Lebanese-born Roman Catholic, killed by "Jewish extremists," according to the FBI. In recent years, terrorist acts against Americans abroad have been attributed to Iran, Syria, Libya, Lebanese Shiites and to Palestinian Abu

Nidal, whose gang openly flaunts the PLO. Reportedly, the renegade has a murder contract out on PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

At any rate, neither PLO office in this country has ever been accused of any illegal act, as the U.S. State Department protested when the banning legislation was being drawn up.

The real message the new law sent overseas was that the Congress, if not the executive branch, was willing to assume the supine position, rather than risk the wrath of Israeli hard-liners, led by Prime Minister Shamir's Likud Block. It has refused to accommodate even the views of the late David Ben-Gurion's Labor Party, which calls for the resolution of the Palestinian crisis through an international conference.

As a result, the United States finds itself increasingly isolated on the Middle

East. Last week the 12-nation European Community backed the international conference concept in a statement roundly criticizing Israeli handling of the Palestinians. It should be noted that a call for even stronger criticism was led by Denmark, a nation whose people, at great risk, evacuated to safety from the Nazis almost its entire Jewish population and in a single night. The Danes are no anti-Semites.

Within 24 hours of the European statement, congressional sponsors of the anti-PLO legislation announced they had received assurances of the imminent closing of the organization's New York office, which has remained open because of UN protests that America's domestic politics were interfering with the international body's functioning.

To its great credit, the American Jewish Congress publicly seeks "realistic alternatives of the status quo that would enhance Israel's security and would avoid the demographic and other dangers of continuing an unavoidably hostile occupation (of Gaza and the West Bank)." The AJC continues to endorse the need for an international conference.

Filmmaker Woody Allen has joined a chorus of new voices from the American Jewish community, calling for an Israeli pull-back from the occupied territories. Writing in the *New York Times*, Mr. Allen expressed his horror at the policy of beatings, killings and "starving" the Palestinians into "sub-

mission."

The principal opposition to an international conference stems from the hard-line opposition to yielding any more land captured in the 1967 war. Returning the Sinai to Egypt was more than enough. To Mr. Shamir and his backers, present-day Israel has a God-given right to all the territory acquired by the ancient Israelites in their conquests after escaping pharaonic Egypt.

In simple fact, Middle East peace, this nation's foreign policy and our domestic politics are being held hostage to the interpretation a few foreign gentlemen make of the Bible's Old Testament history.

The political survival of Israel, as a nation, is not at risk. Twice, the Palestine National Council, the PLO's legislative branch, has voted to recognize the legitimacy of the Jewish state.

Of course, the key to that nation's security lies with the United States. As former national security adviser Zbigniew Brezinski pointed out in last Friday's Washington Post: "The U.S. commitment to Israel is primarily of a moral nature. It stems from the American people's deep conviction that the state of Israel corrects a fundamental historical injustice to which much of the world, including America itself, was indifferent. It is this bond that unites America and Israel and creates an *absolute* and unique commitment to Israel's future and security."

It is this moral right which is being splintered by every bullet, billy-club and rifle butt used on the Palestinians. Closing down law-abiding Palestinian offices in this country does not help.

The madness in the Middle East goes on.

Editor
News-Post
Frederick, Md. 21701

2/15/88

Dear Editor,

Long delays in publishing refutations of Roy "eachum's mendacities about Jews and Israel are unfair because, as with all lies, the truth can never catch up and because by the time they appear most readers no longer remember the details of his venomous evil and endless preaching of hatred.

His 2/5 "more madness column," for example, rephrases what I earlier proved without a murmur from him was simply false. He merely ^{words} rephrases it and thereby both he and you impose on the readers' trust.

His lie about alleged Jewish imperialism comes straight from Hitler and the infamous Czarist police fabrication of The Protocols.

A few weeks ago he said that Israel intends to extend its borders to the Euphrates. I challenged him to cite his source for this infamous lie and he was silent until he ^{firmulation!} ~~now rephrases rephrases it~~ "To Mr. Shamir and his backers, present-day Israel has a God-given right to all the territories acquired by ancient Israelites in their conquests after escaping pharonic Egypt."

That was in the 13th century B.C. King David (10th century B.C.) extended his authority to Damascus ~~in that direction~~. To allege that Israel believes it ~~extends~~ ^{stupid} is entitled to rule Syria is worse than merely ~~stupid~~, it is the Hitlerian big lie as well as still another of his endless flauntings of ignorance of ~~determination to be a junior-grade Hitler in his lying~~. (Hitler's belief was that for a lie to succeed it had to be a whopper.)

One doesn't have to be a biblical expert to know that your expert on everything and self-described Middle East ~~expert~~ ^{authority} knows about Moses (13th century B.C.) and the Sinai. He has Israel claiming a "god-given right" to the Sinai which it only recently returned to Egypt under the Camp David agreements.

Shameless is hardly an adequate description of this kind of writing.

He drags ⁱⁿ the Camp "avid agreements", about which he has yet to inform his readers,

with what so typifies his ^{persisting} endless dishonesties: "Israeli Prime Minister Shamir, a man who fought biterly against the Camp David accords."

Shamir heads the Likud coalition, of the right. This is, even ~~for~~ for your Islamic propagandist in residence, ~~and on the payroll~~, a novel description of the actuality, that Shamir's predecessor, of the same party, Begin, negotiated the Camp David agreement and it is they who returned the Sinai to Egypt - ~~without~~ without any Arab implementation of that agreement in return.

In a gross and obviously deliberate misrepresentation of our anti-terrorism law, he not only misstates its purpose, he does this with a simply incredible lie calculated to make it appear that the sole ^{U.S.} victim of terrorism was a Lebanese: "The only American citizen to die on U.S. soil (emphasis added) from a terrorist act was Alex Odeh. . . killed by Jewish extremists."

~~Even with~~ Even with the ^{tricky} journalism of basing this on the utterly irrelevant, "on U.S. soil," ^{q. 11/20} this is and unless your expert on everything in the world never looks at TV, listens to the radio, or reads anything ^{headline} that doesn't have the words "Israel" or "Arab" in the newspapers, how can he not know that for years terrorism "on U.S. soil" has been rampant?

Does he not know of the sensational trial^s of those terrorists who assassinated Denver talk show host Rose, a Jew? or the Greenville trial of the terrorist killings that also included Jews? or of the klan murder of a youthful black for which they also were sued in civil court, with a large award to his mother? ~~and so much more?~~

"The political survival of Israel, as a nation, is not at risk," he says, because "the PLO's legislative branch~~s~~ has voted to recognize the ~~legit~~ legitimacy of the Jewish state." Is this why the PLO still has in its charter driving all the Jews into the sea? Or why its Washington representative got on TV the end of January to say that their intent remains taking ~~of~~ back all Israeli territory? What the PLO or any part of its says means nothing and with a 10 mile width to much of Israel as long as it has any enemies survival is always "at risk." Including ~~from~~ from those more ~~extreme~~ extreme than Arafat.

Like ~~abu~~ Nidal and his ~~gang~~ of thugs. Your world authority is cute, even for him, on Nidal, ~~who~~ ^{Nidal's} he has insisted through all his terrorism, ^{libe} the Achille Lauro hijacking and the murder of an American Jew, aged and inform ^{an Arab} Leon Klinghofer, ~~not~~ ^{and} on American soil, the bombings of the Rome and Vienna airports, where more Americans, including children, were killed, that ^{is/ a/} the Nidals are not terrorists, merely ~~Arab~~ ^{or} versions of ^{at} Washington and Jefferson - ~~real~~ ^{at only a} patriots. ^{this and other}

in "More madness," still without apologising to his ~~readers~~ ^{readers} for his previous lies, he refers to Nidal as a PLO ~~pe~~ "renegade" and his followers as a "gang." Well, maybe someday he'll get around to writing what is true, that one of the two forces responsible for the violence in Gaza and the West Bank is "renegade" Nidal's "gang." The other is muslim fundamentalists.

There is more, like the diminished big lie that Jews defeated Senator Percy and persuaded Mac ~~athias~~ ^{athias} not to run again. This is still a lie no matter how he reformulates it without finding the personal or journalistic integrity to be honest with himself or his readers.

In this column, which is ^{inadequately self-} ~~well~~ described as more of his madness, he ~~quotes~~ quotes the New York Times. Odd that he didn't manage to see and shed bitter tears over ^{its report} the slaughter ^{of} in a single day - ~~reported in the Times~~ of 80 Muslims in Bangladesh by Muslims. He laments only those suffering ^{he can}, by ~~these~~ thoroughgoing dishonesties, ^{blame} blame on Jews.

He made a big mistake with his fence. It should have been solid. So he can hide behind it.