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TREATED AS HANDWRITING NO BLUE CARD MADE

3/28/75

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 31, 1975

MR. PRESIDENT:

Attached is the latest Ronald
Reagan column.

Don

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Don' written in a stylized, cursive script.

MAR 29 1975

THE RONALD REAGAN COLUMN

(For Release In Papers On Friday, March 28, Or Thereafter)

By RONALD REAGAN

Copley News Service

Last fall, Yasir Arafat came to the United Nations in New York. As head of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the guerrilla group that wants everyone to believe it represents all the Arabs on the West Bank of the Jordan, Arafat spoke to an enthusiastic, cheering General Assembly. The enthusiasm stemmed from the fact that body is now dominated by so-called Third World members.

Curiously, for one who claims to have gone straight, Arafat wore a gun throughout his appearance on stage. Most in the audience ignored this, commenting instead on his colorful burnoose.

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Enthralled by his performance, the United Nations granted the PLO the right to have a "permanent observer" stationed at its East River enclave. This gentleman, Sadat Hassan, is urbane and courtly and is now traveling about the nation visiting with a variety of public figures. Politely, he states the case for the PLO in particular and for Arab historical claims to Palestine in general.

I'm not sure history supports the latter contention, but there is some truth in what someone has said about the difficulties in the Middle East: "There is so much right on both sides." Believing that, it would seem that men of good will could find a peaceful solution.

Hassan would have Americans believe that the days of terrorism are a thing of the past for the PLO.

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If so, there could be reason for optimism, but once the fox has gotten inside the chicken coop, does he ever lose his taste for blood until he's cleaned the place out? Tragically, we may have the answer to that already. If so, there's little room for optimism at all.

Early in March, PLO guerrillas attacked a Tel Aviv hotel in a savage raid that left 18 persons dead, including all but one of the attackers.

Now, one Zouheir Mohsen, head of the "military section" of the PLO, threatens to attack "Israeli targets" in the United States.

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"We will strike at any Israeli strategic target wherever we can reach it, in Israel, or in Japan or in the United States," he said in an interview recently.

He also admitted that the hotel attack in Tel Aviv was aimed at sabotaging Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's delicate peacemaking negotiations between Arabs and Israelis. Mohsen described Kissinger as a "joker and a charlatan." So much for the PLO's peaceful intentions.

Clearly, the bandit group's actions belie its soothing words in international forums. Since this is so, any American leaders who are scheduled to hear the blandishments of the suave Mr. Hassan might just as well tell him to stay at the United Nations as waste their time.

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And, our counterintelligence people should take Mohsen's saber-rattling talk seriously, with appropriate steps to prevent his murderous cohorts from ever landing here.

Mr. Hassan, meet Mr. Mohsen.

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3/24/75
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