

Local Man, President Discuss Cyprus Issues

By BONITA BALDWIN

"I tell you-I feel safe going to bed at night with that man in the White House. He's a good man!" The speaker, Dennis J. Livadas is a Rochester attorney and Supreme Counselor of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, an organization of Americans of Greek descent.

He and eight other members of AHEPA met last week with President Gerald Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to discuss issues arising out of the Greek-Turkish conflict on the island of Cyprus.

It took three months to schedule the conference with President Ford, Livadas said. When the delegates arrived for their 12:30 interview the President was in the midst of a conference with the Council of Economic Advisers and representatives of railroad management and labor. At 12:50 the President left that group to meet with the AHEPA members in the Roosevelt Room. He stayed with them until 2:10 and then returned to the railroad conference still in session in the Cabinet Room, without a break for lunch.

Livadas described Ford as very hard-working and earnest. "He is much like Johnson in his consensus approach, seeking to reason together." He also compared Ford to Eisenhower, saying they were "both simple

men with a lot going for them." He noted that Franklin Roosevelt chose Eisenhower to be a general over 235 colonels, and that Nixon, whom Livadas considered brilliant, picked Ford.

Comparing Ford to Nixon, Livadas said he considered him more stable and felt that he operated by a simpler set of standards.

Ford uses simple, direct language, and looks his audience straight in the eye, Livadas noticed.

"The President is forceful, without being offensive; polite, but not weak; firm, but not aggressive. He is very capable and knows what he is about. He is in command of his person, language, thoughts, and body," Livadas said.

When President Ford first came into the meeting he sat down and talked for 15 minutes. "He had no notes, no one to prod him. He must have quoted 100 facts, each one absolutely accurate. He had a logical reason for every position he took."

The President told them, "I made my first dollar working for a Greek in a concession in Michigan." He greeted his former employer, present at the meeting, with a warm hug, Livadas said.

The President is neither so

bland nor so naive as he appears Livadas claimed. "He gives a large impression of honesty and openness which can be deceiving. He's not about to give up his principles." Calling Ford a "tough hombre," Livadas credited him with having "guts" and the ability to see angles. He recalled that during their conference Ford would counter a point, and "without changing his facial expression or tone of voice a certain glint in his eyes said, 'This is as far as I'm going.'"

The President is spare for a 61-year-old man with an athletic background, Livadas observed. He has a warm, firm handshake. "There's a great deal of kindness about the man," Livadas said.

Although the administration opposes the cut-off of arms to Turkey, Livadas found President Ford "honest and cooperative within the limitations of the office."

"He meant well and wanted to help," the lawyer said. "How can you fault a man like that?"

Fisher College Cites Teacher

Dr. David Teegarden, an assistant professor of chemistry at St. John Fisher College, has been chosen for the college's Award for Teaching Excellence. He will receive a \$500 prize and an engraved plaque.

availability to the students after class sessions has further enhanced his qualities as a superb teacher."

Announcing the award, Father Charles J. Lavery, CSB, Fisher president, said, "Dr. Teegarden's concern for each of his students is rewarded by their interest in learning. His consistent

Dr. Teegarden recently received a \$1,000 grant from the college for summer research on a project entitled "Structural Determination of Bicyclic Molecules with Mass Spectroscopy." He is a 1963 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, and holds MS and PhD degrees from the University of Michigan.

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Family Unity Month

A Call to Action

By FATHER ROBERT L. COLLINS
Diocesan Family Life Director

Gov. Carey has designated May as Family Unity Month. The official proclamation declares that:

The family must be preserved as a basic unit of society. It is recognized that the quality of our community life begins in the home. The attributes of honesty, self-respect, compassion, industry, and good citizenship can best be taught within the walls of the home.

Families are encouraged to work and play together, to participate in family discussions, projects, attending church, recreational sports, cultural events and other uplifting activities.

It is fitting that special recognition be given to family unity and its role in promoting the welfare of all in New York State.

I wonder when I read these words whether they were a call to action or a cry for help. Certainly many people are concerned today about the future of the family. I count at least one article a week in Sunday supplements or national magazines which states that the family is doomed. Yet the families I come in contact with most often in my work as Family Life Director do not act doomed. They seem to have those qualities which Gov. Carey mentions. The reason for their success?

They pray together as a family. Whenever they can, at meals holding hands, at night before the children go to bed, before any family activity. Their prayer is very simple, very heartfelt. And they take their time doing it.

They talk to each other. When these families are together, they turn off the TV, put away the magazines and talk about the day. Everybody shares and nobody remains silent.

They listen to each other. Every member of the family respects the specialness of every other member of the family. No one interrupts anyone else.

They make time for family activities. One evening or one morning is set aside for the family to enjoy each other's company either working or playing together.

They learn together. The whole family talks about the Sunday liturgy, the day's religion class, the Scripture for next Sunday. They apply these lessons to their daily lives.

These simple suggestions seem to work for the families I know. They don't need a Family Unity Month because they strive for this unity all the time. I recommend these suggestions to those families who look upon Family Unity Month as just another piece of paper. They may find out that what sounded like a cry for help was really a call to action.

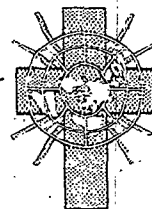


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