



Perspective

By Jamie Buckingham

Mixing The Lion's Menu

None of it really makes sense. First it was the Rev. Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) embracing Yasser Arafat, the world's most notorious terrorist in Beirut, Lebanon. Then it was Jesse Jackson, president of People United to Save Humanity (PUSH) in Beirut doing the same thing. At the same time Jewish leaders, who have been the Targets of the PLO terrorism, have tried to hold their peace while defiantly refusing to meet with Jackson for fear that would give recognition to Arafat and the PLO as a valid expression of the Palestinian cause.

Meanwhile back in Columbia-the-Gem-of-the-ocean, Tyrone Brooks, recently ousted national field director of the SCLC, roundly lashed Lowery for embracing Arafat.

"I wonder how the thugs who are now running SCLC would feel if American Jewish leaders ventured to Decatur, Ala., put on hoods, locked arms with (Klan leader) Bill Wilkinson and burned crosses with the Ku Klux Klan."

Good observation, until you consider that Brooks Strongly supported Hosea Williams, who not only embraced Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy but honored him with the Martin

Luther King peace medallion. If Arafat is the world's leading terrorist, then Khadafy is his godfather.

It all seems to stem from three sources. First, with the loss of Andy Young, American blacks — who for some reason along with Jews, demand to be counted as their own race rather than members of the human race — lost the first of their kin who could deal on an equal basis with heads of state around the globe. They blamed Jews for that resignation and are on a vendetta to set it straight.

Second, the coffers of the various black organizations are almost empty. All this activity is bound to loosen some change — hopefully from some of the oil-rich Arabs around the world.

Finally, Jesse Jackson does seem to be sincere in his desire to bring peace to the strife-torn Middle East. And the report of a letter from the PLO recognizing Israel's right to exist and promising to refrain from terrorism against Israel could be the start.

It has all the trappings of the lion and the lamb lying down together. We can only pray the effort will be successful. And hope the lion does not wake hungry and decide to mix his usual menu of kosher pigeon with a rack of southern lamb.