

In Memoriam

Martin Gold, a longtime activist in Jewish and political affairs, died on March 27, 1997, at age 69. Although not trained as an academic, Marty's fascination for books and his passionate commitment to politics and history led him to research and write extensively on the Middle East. Long active in politics, Marty worked for Robert Kennedy and New York City's Mayor Robert Wagner, and served as Executive Assistant and Press Secretary to Bronx Borough President Herman Badillo. An avid collector of rare books and maps, he later moved to Connecticut where he ran a bookstore renowned for its antiquarian collections, and continued his political work. He was appointed by Connecticut's Lieutenant Governor to direct contract compliance for the Connecticut Department of Transportation, and headed its equal opportunity department. Even after his retirement he continued this work, serving as a consultant for the DOT enforcing anti-discrimination and equal opportunity laws. Marty worked tirelessly for racial and economic justice both through his civil service employment and through his numerous and enduring volunteer commitments. Serving twenty years on the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Hartford, Marty was a member of its executive committee and chair of its Domestic Task Force at the time of his death. He served on the Connecticut regional board of the Anti-Defamation League, the Community Renewal Team (an anti-poverty agency), the Friends of the Hartford Public Library, and the Inter-Religious Committee for Understanding.

Engaged in international as well as domestic political and humanitarian concerns, he helped organize an interfaith coalition to settle Bosnian refugees and worked also to aid Soviet Jews newly arrived in the Hartford area. Marty's deep commitment to Israel and his fascination with the Middle East drove him to deepen his understanding of the region's complex issues through extensive self-study. After the Lebanon war, Marty helped found Jews for Peace in the Middle East, a Hartford organization dedicated to a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict through an exchange of land for peace and the establishment of a Palestinian state. His scholarly interests and his political activism brought him to the Middle East many times, where he met with leaders of the Israeli peace movement as well as Palestinian and other Arab politicians and activists seeking a just and lasting peace. His scholarly interests led him also to more academic involvements, and he wrote articles and reviews for scholarly journals and organizations including the Middle East Studies Association. In his writing, as in his speaking and coalition building, Marty sought to make his political vision a reality. The passionate tone of his writing engaged his readers while the detailed facts and careful analysis he offered grounded that passion and pointed toward what he saw as the best path for achieving a just peace. Marty read widely, felt his political commitments passionately, and worked tirelessly to promote his vision of justice

and equality. In losing him we lost a patient and thoughtful scholar/activist and a ringing voice for peace. He is survived by his wife of thirty-five years, Shirley Gold.

CHERYL GREENBERG

Trinity College

Parker T. Hart, known to his Foreign Service colleagues as Pete, died on October 15, 1997. He was 87 and had been suffering from Parkinson's disease for some time. A former member of MESA, he was a trustee emeritus of the American University of Beirut and had served as president of the Middle East Institute from 1969 to 1971. He was a 1937 graduate of Dartmouth College and had a master's degree in diplomatic history from Harvard University.

Hart was one of the best known Middle East specialists in the Foreign Service, beginning his work in the area with his opening of the consulate at Dhahran while still a vice consul in 1944, on the eve of the oil era in Saudi Arabia, and remaining there until 1947. He returned as consul general in 1949 and then served as director of the Office of Near Eastern Affairs in the Department of State (1952-1955). He was deputy chief of mission at the embassy in Cairo (1957-1958) and was appointed ambassador to Jordan in February 1958. That was canceled because Iraq and Jordan formed the Arab Union, whose diplomatic capital was to be Baghdad, in response to formation of the United Arab Republic between Egypt and Syria. Instead, Hart went to Damascus briefly as consul general, and was then called back to be deputy assistant secretary of state for the Near East and South Asia (NEA). He went to Saudi Arabia as ambassador in 1961 and from there to Turkey in 1965. In that post he played an important role in defusing the 1967 Cyprus crisis and later wrote a book about it: *Two NATO Allies at the Threshold of War* (Duke University Press, 1990). He was brought back to Washington to be assistant secretary of NEA in the fall of 1968, but was soon replaced by Joseph Sisco when the Republicans came into office. He served briefly as director of the Foreign Service Institute and then retired in late 1969 to become president of the Middle East Institute and a consultant to the Bechtel Corporation. Hart served in key posts during a formative period of US Middle East policy. Like most of us, he was not very enthusiastic about the direction it took much of the time, but he was a loyal civil servant who did his best to carry out those orders he could not change. He would never have claimed great fluency for himself, but he was one of the earliest "Arabists" in the Department of State to become tolerably proficient in Arabic. He also acquired a creditable level of proficiency in Turkish while serving as ambassador to Turkey. Hart's second book, *Saudi Arabia and the United States: Building a Security Partnership*, will be published by Indiana University Press this year. It provides an insider's detailed account of the early days of that partnership. Hart is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jane Smiley Hart, two daughters, and four grandchildren.

RICHARD B. PARKER

Washington, D.C.