

out of their shuls on Simchat Torah, to give us encouragement face to face - so desperately needed by us all. This is what my father would have done. He would have organized mass delegations from across the USA - fellow rabbis, community leaders, laymen, men and women, university students. He would never have taken No for an answer. No was not a word that featured in his lexicon. He only knew eis l'asos l'Hashem! That was his guiding light in life. I have recently heard that YU is beginning to organize missions like these. Have letters been sent out to all shul members encouraging them to do the same?

Next week, we will be reading Parshat Vayeira. How many Yitzchaks we have already sacrificed on our altars here... who knows how many are still to come... We do not ask you to don the unforms of the IDF. We only ask that you come and support us while we go off to war. Please, I beg you, heed our call!

Oseh shalom bimromov Hu ya'ase shalom aleinu v'al kol Yisrael v'imru Amen!

Debby Spero Karnei Shomron, Israel

Dear Editor.

The Biden Administration appears to support Israel, but that support is contingent on Israel allowing humanitarian aid to Gazans and limiting "retribution." Stopping Hamas is alright, but wiping Hamas out appears not to be OK. At the very least, the aid could have been tied to the return of the over 200 hostages. However, President Biden appears to be more interested in appeasing the Arab world, especially Iran, and they sense his weakness. Furthermore, President Biden, in his speech has conflated aid to Israel with continued aid to Ukraine. They involve different issues: Ukraine won't defeat Russia, but Israel must defeat Hamas because Hamas poses an existential threat not only to the State of Israel but also to the citizens of Gaza.

Jan Henock Woodmere, NY

Dear Editor,

Last week, after waking up, my wife and I weren't feeling very well. Nevertheless, we trudged on. I went to daven, and she prepared for her day. As I was about to board my train to go to work, I got a phone call. My wife told me she tested positive for covid. Of course, if the call came a few moments later, I'd be on the train, with a possible chance of infecting others with a difficult commute home, as

I wasn't feeling well.

Racheli Frenkel, whose son was murdered by terrorists in 2014, has since become a voice of strength for all to absorb difficult events. To the recent tragedy, she applied the words, "Vayidom Aharon - Aharon was silent" when he heard of the death of his two children. He accepted G-d's decision with no questions. But Frenkel points out, there was an immediate continuation to the story, and that is Moshe tells Aharon to continue his service. Indeed, we must accept and then continue our mission. She also said over words from Rav Aharon Lichtenstein that he said following the Yom Kippur War. Rav Lichtenstein said that we must build a loving trust with G-d not dependent on anything. Even in good times, we must build this trust and cleave to Him with no ulterior motives, such as being saved by perilous events.

I had my small moment of hashgacha that morning, being saved from boarding a train while infected by Covid. Hashgacha brings belief. It seems there's another avenue as well to cleave to the Creator – a loving trust with or without the need to be rescued from unspeakable tragedies.

Steven Genack

Dear Editor,

President Biden's call to send \$100 million of your tax dollars to Gaza for humanitarian relief is naive. Gaza is governed by Hamas. They are the same terrorists responsible for the loss of 1,400 Israel citizens murdered at the hands of Hamas. This would be the equivalent of America losing 40,000 babies, children, teenagers, adults and seniors. Hamas has a long history of diverting humanitarian aid for military purposes. This included building a network of three hundred miles of underground tunnels in Gaza.

First things first, Hamas should release all hostages from Israel, the United States and other nations around the world. Any humanitarian aid after that needs to be administered by the International Red Cross supplemented by outside observers. This is the only way to assure that aid goes to civilians in need versus Hamas terrorists. Don't pay for it by adding \$100 million to our long term \$33.6 trillion national debt. Instead, reduce our aid to the useless pro-Palestinian United Nations by \$100 million.

Sincerely, Larry Penner Great Neck, NY