



Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue

1537 Deerwood Drive East

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Editorials



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Remembering the evil men do

In spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart.

— Anne Frank

“The Diary of a Young Girl”

Entry, July 15, 1944

THE YEAR after she wrote those optimistic words, the teen-age diarist named Anne Frank was dead at the hands of those who orchestrated one of history's worst mass murders.

The world is a better place because of her writings, which were published seven years after her death. But the world remains far from perfect, and it is in need of people who will do now what Anne Frank did then: tell the story of the Nazis' attempt to exterminate the Jews.

That's one of the reasons that the Mobile community's *Yom Hashoah* service — in Hebrew, “Holocaust Remembrance Day” — last night was so important, and why Jews throughout the country will commemorate the same today. If we in the United States

— the world's reigning superpower — are to prevent future Holocausts, we must remember how and why the one in Germany happened.

Otherwise, hate groups and purveyors of perverted history will prevail in their attempts to minimize the slaughter of 11 million people, including 6 million Jews and 5 million Poles, gypsies, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses and disabled people.

The people who organized Mobile's commemorative service — Paul and Mary Filben — will stage a similar memorial service today in Montgomery. Ironically, the Filbens are Roman Catholics, not Jews. And yet, because they understand, and hope to teach others, that hate knows no single group of people but is a universal affliction, they have long been involved in the Holocaust commemoration in South Alabama.

Says Mr. Filben: “Nothing you can do is enough, but to do nothing is not OK.”

To which one can only add: Amen.

SoundOff

1-800-945-9773

You may speak your mind on anything you wish. Because of the large number of calls we receive, we cannot publish all the comments.

Filbens exemplify Christian spirit

■ My blessings and congratulations go out to Paul and Mary Filben. As a non-Christian, I believe they exemplify the true spirit of Christianity.