

Honorable Angier Biddle Duke

Thank you very much, Chairman Paul Stern. Mr. President, members of the Dais, and dear colleagues, Excellencies in the room among which the most prominent one is Ambassador Montano, the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations, and friends of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation.

It is in the tradition of our Foundation to recognize on an occasion like this, significant service in the private sector on behalf of the civil society. We are particularly interested in human rights, in religious tolerance, in understanding and freedom, and a constructive engagement between business, education, and the environment.

And so the choice for our Annual Award for that kind of dynamic leadership in the corporate community goes to Edwin L. Artzt, who is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Procter & Gamble, one of the largest and most widely known companies in the world. Its brand names of Ivory, Pampers, Crest, are symbols of American productivity and distribution around the globe. And from around the globe we received messages to our Guests of Honor tonight, and there is one that I would like to quote about Mr. Artzt. It is from the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Richard von Weizsaecker, who tells us that Edwin L. Artzt did not limit himself to a highly successful and meaningful career in corporate business. His valuable contributions to public causes, especially in the field of international coopera-

tion, are so eminent that I shall make special mention only of his significant involvement in the American Institute for Contemporary German studies.

He sets an example for what we need most in our democratic societies. He is a great civic leader, and I think that's a wonderful tradition, a wonderful salute to Edwin L. Artzt.

Just a word about him personally. He is a fellow New Yorker, born in our midst some 60 years ago. He graduated from the University of Oregon, joined Procter & Gamble early, and early on set his sights on the world. He was in charge of European operations among his first assignment, and in 1984, he was elected president of Procter & Gamble International.

He took over his present responsibilities in 1990, and he and his wife, Ruth, his wife Ruth is here at this Table #8, with two of his daughters, I don't see his grandchildren. He has 4 of them, and I welcome the family of Edwin Artzt.

He is a member of President Bush's Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations. He is a fellow member of the Council on Foreign Relations; the Center for Strategic and International Studies and so on, and so on, and so on. But the point is that the Appeal of Conscience is pleased to honor Edwin L. Artzt as a leader of the American business community, whose creative leadership has served to foster international cooperation through trade, through education, and concern for the environment.

And I would like to make one quote from the messages that he has received tonight from the Metropolitan Meliton, the Chief Secretary of the Holy Synod, who states that at a time wherein man's inhumanity to man has captured headlines in the world media, it is morally imperative that venerable organizations such as the Appeal of Conscience Foundation address man's humanness to his or her neighbor by honoring that which is the best in each and every one of us. And in that spirit, we honor Edwin L. Artzt.

Rabbi Schneier, Mr. President, would you join us for the presentation of the award.