

the only stable foundation of their relationship must be equal sovereignty and mutual respect. Only on this basis

can mutual goodwill and friendship subsist and endure. — *By Senate President Arturo M. Tolentino.*

ANTIQUITY OF VILLAGE LIFE

Man lived in permanent settlements in the Middle East 5,000 years before Abraham, said an archeologist.

He said recent excavations indicate man resided in permanent settlements even while still existing by hunting and gathering wild crops.

The archeologist, Maurits van Loon of the University of Chicago, dug at Tell Mureybat, a large mound on the Euphrates river in Syria 200 miles from Damascus. He began his National Science Foundation — supported project in 1964 to salvage some of the ancient remains threatened by the Syrian government's plans for a 4 million dollar irrigation dam.

"The archaeological evidence examined to date in-

dicates that the village's inhabitants subsisted entirely on hunting and the harvesting on wild crops," Van Loon said.

"The remains indicate the ancient Euphrateans' first shelters were huts with clay floors and walls built over a frame of wood or reeds on stone foundations," he said.

"The rooms had no doorways, but between two pairs of rooms there were tiny peep-holes," he said. "The houses were entered through the roof."

Van Loon dated the village at about 9,500 years, or 4,500 years before the start of the bronze age and 6,300 before the iron age.