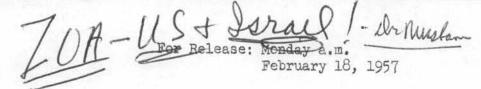
From the Office of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey 140 Senate Office Building Washington 25, D.C. NAtional 8-3120, Ext. 881



SENATOR HUMPHREY OFFERS SIX-POINT MID-EAST PROGRAM

"Senate debate on the Eisenhower Doctrine has served the valuable function of exposing the real problems in the Middle East," Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D.,Minn.) told a Zionist Organization of America meeting in Los Angeles last night. The Minnesota legislator, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations committee, offered his own 6-point program for "peace with justice" in the Middle East, proposals which he urged be given prompt, belated attention.

Listed by the Senator as "constructive steps which our sider" were the following:

We should strengthen the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East as an instrument of interposition between Israel and Egypt at such strategic assignments as the Gaza Strip, the Straits of Tiran, and outposts along the Sinai frontier. We should initiate proposals in the United Nations to place the United Nations police force on a continuing basis for permanent availability for service elsewhere as the United Nations may direct.

Meffective embargo against shipments from any outside source other than under United Nations auspices. To this end, we should seek the establishment by the United Nations General Assembly of a Special Commission on Arms Traffic, which Commission would be charged with responsibility for proposing early recommendations on regulating all flow of non-United Nations material into that region.

We should consider proposing a pilot project, open-skies aerial and ground inspection system over the Egyptian-Israeli-Jordanian-Syrian-Saudi Arabian border areas. Since many of these governments supported the 1955 United Nations resolution giving priority to these proposals on a wider scale, the same governments might be asked to assist in the reduction of tensions in their own areas, as well as help promote the usefulness of this concept for disarmament negotiations generally, by agreeing now to such a pilot mutual inspection system to be conducted by themselves or by outside parties as agreed upon.

We should recognize the critical importance of re-establishing the principle of free navigation on international waterways, specifically including unfettered access to the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba for the shipping of all nations. To this end we should go beyond Secretary Dulles' bargaining proposal on Aqaba, to take leadership in the United Nations to implement and reinforce existing resolutions on this matter. Our government should also give serious attention to the possibility of placing all international waterways under special international control. Ownership of waterways could remain with the national governments involved, while maximum rates and minimum standards of operation could be fixed by an independent international body perhaps modelled on our own Interstate Commerce Commission.

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5. We should propose the establishment of a United Nations Good Offices Commission, whose purpose would be to reduce tensions in the Middle East by promoting direct negotiations between the current antagonists and mediating among them if direct negotiations prove to be impossible. The Commission should be specifically charged with unremitting exploration of the possibility of negotiations on the central problems of determination of boundaries, resettlement of Arab refugees from Israel and of Jewish refugees from Egypt and Syria, and the conclusion of treaties of peace.

6. We should help break the stalemates of inertia and blockade by promoting dynamic projects to help raise living standards, strengthen economies, and encourage orderly social progress in the Middle East. We should affirm our interest and support for long-term regional economic development programs sufficiently broad to encompass multi-national river development projects for the Jordan, Nile, and Tigris-Euphrates river valley systems. Toward this end, we should take the initiative in the United Nations in proposing a Middle East Development Authority, as an administering agency for the mutual pooling of capital and technical aid in the region, the Board of Directors of which would contain representatives of all Middle Eastern States, as well as of all other states furnishing capital aid and technical assistance.

I consider these proposals to be sound, practicable and indicative of the positive approach which the United States must soon adopt. It will take courage and darying to adopt such an approach in the Middle East.

Without these qualities, however, we will continue to muddle, moralize, and probably miss the opportunity to be of constructive use in the Middle East. With these qualities, we can at least hope that our courage will be rewarded.

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