

MEMORANDUM

APRIL 11, 1972

TO: Senator Humphrey
FROM: Mark Epstein
SUBJ: Address to Beth Tfiloh Congregation
30th Annual Dinner
Baltimore, Maryland
Wednesday, April 12

We suggest you use again these excerpts on: Jerusalem, Israel's defense, Jewish refugees and kosher slaughter.

This is the basic material in the "Humphrey Outlines Elements of New U.S.-Israeli Policy" release that we used in Milwaukee.

You might want to mention that one week from this event--Wednesday, April 19th--is the 24th anniversary of Israeli independence.

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

BETH TFILOH CONGREGATION
30TH ANNUAL DINNER

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
APRIL 12, 1972

EXCERPTS -- BETH TFILOH CONGREGATION

1. JERUSALEM

ANYONE FAINTLY FAMILIAR WITH THE LAST 3 MILLENIUM OF
JEWISH HISTORY CANNOT FAIL TO UNDERSTAND THE DEEP
SIGNIFICANCE OF JERUSALEM.

JERUSALEM AND THE JEW ARE SO DEEPLY INTERTWINED IN
THE PAGES OF HISTORY THAT EVEN THE NAMING OF THE CAPITAL
IN 1948 MERELY RATIFIED WHAT MILLIONS OF JEWISH HEARTS
HAD ALWAYS KNOWN. BUT, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
REFUSED AND CONTINUES TO REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL'S
RIGHT TO DECIDE WHICH CITY IS ITS CAPITAL.

FOR 19 YEARS, JERUSALEM WAS A TRUNCATED CITY, SPLIT BY WALLS OF BARBED WIRE AND HATRED. THE JORDANIAN ARMY WAS FINALLY REMOVED IN 1967 WHEN ISRAEL REUNITED THE CITY AND BEGAN, WITH COMPASSION AND DEVOTION TO HUMAN DIGNITY, TO BIND UP THE WOUNDS OF DIVISION.

WE WERE WRONG NOT TO RECOGNIZE JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF ISRAEL IN 1948.

WE WERE WRONG NOT TO CRY OUT WHEN JORDANIAN FORCES OCCUPIED HALF OF THAT SACRED CITY LATER THAT YEAR.

WE WERE WRONG TO REMAIN SILENT WHEN THE CENTURY-OLD JEWISH QUARTER WAS REDUCED TO RUBBLE AND SHRINES OF DEEP SIGNIFICANCE TO CHRISTIAN AND JEW ALIKE WERE DESECRATED.

WE COMPOUND THESE WRONGS TODAY BY IGNORING THE
REUNIFICATION OF JERUSALEM AND THE HUMANE ADMINISTRATION
OF THAT CITY UNDER ISRAELI RULE.

LET US WELCOME A UNITED JERUSALEM. THAT HOLY CITY
MUST NOT BE DIVIDED BY WALLS, BY BARBED WIRE, BY HATRED.
IT IS AND MUST BE ONE CITY, A SYMBOL OF LOVE AND THE IDEAL
OF HUMAN BROTHERHOOD.

THE PSALMIST SPEAKS OF "JERUSALEM THE REBUILT, AS A
CITY THAT IS UNITED TOGETHER." THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE
UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE THE REALITY OF A REBUILT AND
REUNITED JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF ISRAEL.

2. ISRAEL'S DEFENSE

IT IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR US JUST TO SPEAK OF JERUSALEM AND ISRAEL -- WE MUST BACK OUR WORDS WITH ACTION. WHAT WE CAN DO -- WHAT WE MUST DO -- IS TO ASSURE ISRAEL OF THE ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SUPPORT SHE NEEDS TO MAINTAIN HER DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES AND UPHOLD THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ANY SIGN OF WEAKNESS OR AMBIVALENCE ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES ONLY ADDS TO THE PRESENT INSTABILITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. A STOP AND GO POLICY ON THE DELIVERY OF ARMS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE CREATES UNCERTAINTY AND ANXIETY IN BOTH ISRAEL AND THE ARAB STATES.

ISRAEL HAS BEEN SPENDING 30 PERCENT OF ITS GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT ON DEFENSE. THESE EXPENDITURES ARE INCREASING. THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ISRAEL'S SERIOUS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT, A FIGURE THAT IS APPROACHING \$1.5 BILLION.

ISRAEL IS A PROUD COUNTRY. IT CARRIES ITS BURDEN WITH COURAGE. BUT IT IS NOT JUST FACING THE ARAB ARMIES. IT IS CONFRONTING THE MILITARY MIGHT OF THE SOVIET UNION.

AT STAKE IS THE PROSPECT OF RENEWED WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST. AND THE STAKES ARE TOO GREAT FOR EQUIVOCATION OR CONFUSION ON OUR PART.

3. JEWISH REFUGEES -- RUSSIA AND ARAB COUNTRIES

WE MUST SAY TO THE SOVIET UNION LOUDLY AND CLEARLY:

"IF YOU ARE GENUINE IN YOUR DESIRE FOR PEACE AND HARMONY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE THOUSANDS OF JEWS IN RUSSIA WHO ARE IMPRISONED IN YOUR SOCIETY BY NOT BEING ABLE TO EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL."

OUR GOVERNMENT MUST EXERT OUR DIPLOMATIC AND MORAL RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF THE COURAGEOUS RUSSIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY THAT, AT GREAT SACRIFICE, REFUSES TO SUBMIT TO THE DESTRUCTION OF ITS IDENTITY.

THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROVIDES THAT ALL PEOPLES HAVE THE RIGHT TO MIGRATE TO THE COUNTRIES OF THEIR CHOICE. THIS IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN LIBERTY. A NATION WHICH DENIES THAT RIGHT IS IMPRISONING ITS CITIZENS.

WE MUST ASSURE THAT EVERY STEP BE TAKEN TO INSURE THAT THOSE SOVIET JEWS DESIROUS OF LEAVING RUSSIA BE PERMITTED TO EMIGRATE AT ONCE TO THE NATION OF THEIR CHOICE.

IN A FEW MONTHS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL BE VISITING THE SOVIET UNION. HE WILL BE IN AN EXCELLENT POSITION TO INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWRY.

WE MUST TAKE VIGOROUS STEPS TO HELP ASSURE THE CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS VITALITY OF THIS HARRASSED AND PERSECUTED COMMUNITY. THE VENERABLE CHIEF RABBI OF MOSCOW DIED 4 MONTHS AGO. NO ADEQUATE REPLACEMENT IS AVAILABLE, AS THE RUSSIANS HAVE LONG FORBIDDEN THE TEACHING OF THE JEWISH RELIGION. TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SOVIET JEWISH YOUTH

LONG TO KNOW THEIR HERITAGE BUT QUALIFIED TEACHERS, BOOKS
AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS ARE RARELY IF EVER
AVAILABLE.

I URGE THE PRESIDENT TO ASSURE THAT ANY FURTHER
CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM ARRIVED AT WITH THE SOVIET UNION
INCLUDE PROVISIONS FOR ETHNIC CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITHIN
EACH OF THE SEVERAL MINORITY GROUPS WITH SIZEABLE POPULATION
IN BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

IF THE SOVIET UNION IS SINCERE ABOUT THE DETENTE AND
IF IT SINCERELY WISHES TO REDUCE TENSIONS AND ENHANCE
INTERNATIONAL GOODWILL, IT SHOULD CONSIDER SUCH AN EXCHANGE
PROGRAM IF IT IS VIGOROUSLY ADVOCATED BY A PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST REMEMBER THE CAPTIVE JEWS
IN ARAB LANDS -- JEWS WHO HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED IN HOSTILE
COUNTRIES FOR CENTURIES. THE STORY OF THESE JEWS IS A
QUIET ONE -- WE DO NOT HEAR TOO MUCH ABOUT IT THESE DAYS.
BUT WE MUST BRING THEIR STORY TO PUBLIC ATTENTION.

IN THIS REGARD, I CAN ANNOUNCE TO YOU, WITH GREAT
PRIDE, THAT I AM THE HONORARY NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE
COMMITTEE TO RESCUE SYRIAN JEWRY. THESE JEWS DESERVE OUR
SUPPORT -- AND THEY NEED IT DESPERATELY.

4. KOSHER SLAUGHTER

IT IS NOT JUST ABROAD THAT THE RIGHTS OF JEWS ARE
ENDANGERED. WE MUST FACE THE FACT THAT HERE IN AMERICA --

THIS VERY DAY -- THE RIGHTS OF OBSERVANT JEWS ARE
THREATENED.

LEGISLATION HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS -- A NEW
MEAT SLAUGHTER BILL -- THAT VERY SIMPLY WILL ENDANGER THE
CONTINUED PROVISION OF KOSHER FOOD.

THIS BILL PROVIDES THAT AN ANIMAL RITUALLY SLAUGHTERED
CAN BE SOLD ONLY IF THE ENTIRE ANIMAL IS "HANDLED,
PROCESSED, AND SOLD" AS KOSHER FOOD.

BUT, AS WE KNOW, ONLY PART OF THE CARCASS IS USED FOR
KOSHER FOOD. IF THE REST OF THE ANIMAL -- THE MOST
VALUABLE COMMERCIAL PART -- IS CLASSIFIED WITH THE KOSHER
CUTS -- THEN IT WILL BE WASTED AND NOT USED.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? IT MEANS THAT THE PRICE OF KOSHER FOOD -- ALREADY EXORBITANTLY HIGH -- WILL BE DOUBLED AT THE VERY LEAST, BUT THAT'S THE LEAST OF THE PROBLEM.

I SAY TO YOU THAT THIS IS RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION THROUGH THE BACK DOOR -- IT IS RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION THROUGH ECONOMIC MEANS.

THERE ARE HEAVY PENALTIES IN THIS BILL FOR ANY VIOLATIONS -- A FINE OF \$10,000, A YEAR IN JAIL, OR BOTH. I ASK YOU -- ARE WE GOING TO PUT RABBIS AND THEIR CONGREGATIONS IN JAIL?

I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT WE WILL NOT LEGISLATE
RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED
STATES. OVER 15 YEARS AGO, I DRAFTED THE LEGISLATIVE
SAFEGUARDS THAT PROTECT KOSHER SLAUGHTER TO THIS DAY.

WE WILL PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF OBSERVANT
JEWS TO FOLLOW THE DICTATES OF THEIR RELIGION. I SAY TO
YOU THAT WE ARE NOT ABOUT TO ABRIDGE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
IN AMERICA.



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