

Justice -
Abraham Maltz -
Rabbi Berkowitz

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

BNAI ZION

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

FEBRUARY 18, 1973

IT IS A GREAT HONOR FOR ME TO RECEIVE AN AWARD WHICH
SYMBOLIZES THE ETERNAL BOND OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN TWO GREAT DEMOCRACIES: THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL.
~~h BNAI ZION -- WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN 1908 -- DISCOVERED~~
~~ISRAEL LONG BEFORE I DID.~~ AS THE OLDEST AMERICAN ZIONIST
FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION, YOU HAVE FOUGHT LONG AND HARD TO SEE
THAT ISRAEL ASSUMES HER RIGHTFUL PLACE AMONG THE GREAT
NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

h I JOINED YOUR STRUGGLE IN THE EARLY YEARS OF ISRAEL'S
NATIONHOOD WHEN I FIRST CAME TO WASHINGTON AS A YOUNG
SENATOR.

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IN THOSE DAYS, IT WAS NOT ALWAYS POPULAR TO SPEAK FOR
ISRAEL FROM THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE. BUT ~~WE GOT THE HELP AND~~

~~ENCOURAGEMENT OF MANY OF MY FRIENDS HERE~~ *working* TOGETHER WE

SECURED THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO HELP THIS FLEDGLING DEMOCRACY

SURVIVE *and grow.*

you can be ~~AM~~ PROUD OF ^{our} ~~MY~~ EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF ~~THE STATE OF~~
ISRAEL, *this year 25th anniversary!*

you can be PROUD BECAUSE ~~I~~ ^{you} HAVE HAD ~~A~~ ^{an important} ROLE IN THE HISTORY

OF A PEOPLE SO ~~CONSISTENTLY~~ ^{long} PERSECUTED AND YET ~~TENACIOUSLY~~ ^{always}

believing in and proclaiming ~~PERSISTENT~~ IN THE AFFIRMATION OF THE HUMAN POTENTIAL.!

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we can be PROUD BECAUSE THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THESE THREE

MILLENIUMS OF STRUGGLE AND SURVIVAL OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

AS SYMBOLIZED IN THE STRUGGLE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THE COUNTLESS MARTYRDOM AND NAMELESS

VICTIMS OF THIS STRUGGLE. THE MESSAGE IS THAT WHILE

MAY BE OPPRESSED, THE URGE FOR FREEDOM WILL PERSIST

UNDIMINISHED.

THIS IS THE STORY OF ISRAEL AS WELL AS THE STORY OF

JEWISH SUFFERING AND TRIUMPH.

THROUGH THE PAGES OF JEWISH HISTORY THE RESOLVE OF

THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAS BEEN CLEAR -- AS IT IS TODAY.

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IN AMERICA, THE SOVIET UNION, ISRAEL OR ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE
WORLD, EACH GENERATION OF JEWS HAS LEFT ITS MARK IN THE
STRUGGLE FOR THEIR OWN FREEDOM AS WELL AS FOR THE FREEDOM
FOR OTHERS.

IT WAS ONLY NATURAL FOR AMERICAN JEWS TO BE IN THE
FOREFRONT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF BLACK
AMERICANS.

IT WAS ONLY NATURAL FOR THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY
TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING THE CONSTITUTIONAL
RIGHTS -- THE CIVIL LIBERTIES -- OF ALL AMERICANS.

AND TODAY THERE IS A NEW CHALLENGE FOR PROTECTORS OF
CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN AMERICA.

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THE ^{struggle} ~~BATTLE~~ BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OVER
BUDGETARY MATTERS, ^{and} ~~IMPEDIMENTS AND~~ SPENDING PRIORITIES

GOES TO THE HEART OF THE QUESTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ^{government}
SEPARATION OF POWERS AND THE CHECKS AND BALANCES.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS WE FACE TODAY IS A DELIBERATE,
CONSCIOUS AND MANUFACTURED ATTEMPT TO CONCENTRATE IN THE
EXECUTIVE BRANCH POWER FORBIDDEN TO IT IN THE CONSTITUTION:
THE POWER OF THE PURSE.

I RAISE THIS ISSUE TONIGHT SO THAT WE WHO HAVE STOOD
TOGETHER WHEN THE CIVIL LIBERTIES AND CIVIL RIGHTS OF
AMERICANS WERE THREATENED CAN STAND TOGETHER AGAIN WITH THE
CONGRESS IN OUR EFFORTS TO RESTORE POWER WHICH BELONGS TO
THE PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES.

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AT STAKE IS NOTHING LESS THAN THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN
AMERICA AND THE PRINCIPLE THAT OUR SYSTEM IS A COMPASSIONATE
ONE DEDICATED TO JUSTICE AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.
THE ^{Story} ~~THE~~ ^{#2} ~~PRINCIPLE~~ OF THE JEW IN THIS OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY
IN THE WORLD, IS THE ^{Story} ~~PRINCIPLE~~ OF BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN DEMANDING
TO BE FREE. IT IS THE DRAMA OF FAITH AND HOPE, THE FLAME
OF HUMAN LIBERTY ALIVE UNDER ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES.

SO TODAY, AS WE SPEAK OF AMERICAN-ISRAELI FRIENDSHIP,
WE MUST ALSO SPEAK IN TERMS OF A SHARED STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN
DIGNITY AND FOR FREEDOM.

*It is this that binds us together -
in an unwritten alliance
of friendship!*

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L MY SUPPORT OF ISRAEL HAS BEEN MORE THAN SUPPORT OF A
DEMOCRATIC STATE -- IT HAS BEEN THE SUPPORT OF A PEOPLE AND
IDEALS WHICH ↓ AND MILLIONS OF AMERICANS CHERISH.

L THE STATE OF ISRAEL HAS FACED MANY CHALLENGES IN HER
QUARTER CENTURY OF EXISTENCE.

L PERHAPS THE MOST ENDURING CHALLENGE SHE HAS FACED OVER
THE YEARS HAS BEEN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE AMONG HER NEIGHBORS.

L PEACE HAS ELUDED THIS IMPORTANT REGION OF THE WORLD,
AND BECAUSE OF THIS, WORLD PEACE REMAINS UNACHIEVED.

L WITHOUT TRUE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, ISRAEL'S GREAT
ECONOMIC AND HUMAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS WILL ALWAYS BE TARNISHED
BY THE FEAR THAT THEY COULD BE DESTROYED IN WAR AND VIOLENCE.

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L IT IS APPROPRIATE TODAY TO TALK OF PEACE COMING TO THE
MIDDLE EAST.

I SAY THIS BECAUSE I DO BELIEVE THE WORLD IS HEADED TO
a period of less tension. It is, for the moment, revealed in
~~A PERIOD OF DETENTE AS A RESULT OF~~ THE PARIS PEACE AGREEMENT

AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM INDOCHINA.

L I BELIEVE IN WHAT SOME CALL THE THEORY OF "LINKAGE"
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. EVENTS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF
THE WORLD ARE LINKED TOGETHER, WHEN GREAT POWERS WITH
CONCERNS IN MANY AREAS OF THE WORLD ARE INVOLVED. ~~THIS IS~~
~~CERTAINLY THE CASE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.~~

h NO ONE WOULD DENY THAT THE SOVIET UNION COULD PLAY A
CRUCIAL ROLE IN BREAKING THE CURRENT POLITICAL AND MILITARY
DEADLOCK WHICH PREVAILS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

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and I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE SOVIET

UNION TO DO SO. AND IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE

UNITED STATES TO GIVE THE SOVIET UNION ALL THE ENCOURAGEMENT

IT NEEDS SO THAT IT CAN URGE ITS ~~FRIENDS~~ ^{associates} IN THE MIDDLE EAST

TO MAKE THEIR POSITIONS MORE FLEXIBLE.

better understanding
L THE SPIRIT OF ~~DEFENSE~~ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE
SOVIET UNION MEANS MORE THAN JUST A PREVAILING SPIRIT OF GOOD
WILL.

L THE SOVIET UNION HAS JUST EXPERIENCED A CRISIS IN ITS
~~STATE~~ OF FOOD PRODUCTION. L LAST YEAR MOSCOW WAS FORCED TO
BUY HUGE AMOUNTS OF WHEAT IN THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE OF
ITS CROP FAILURE.

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THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE SOVIET WHEAT CROP MAY AGAIN BE
IN DIFFICULTY BECAUSE OF BAD WINTER WEATHER.

EXPANDED COMMERCIAL AND TRADE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE
UNITED STATES ARE IMPORTANT TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT. ^{DETENTE}
The Soviet Union needs credits - it needs
WITH THE UNITED STATES IS THE MOTHERS MILK OF NEW ECONOMIC
Western Technology - it must
INTER-RELATIONSHIPS THE SOVIETS SEEK TO FOSTER WITH US.

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SERIOUS OBSTACLES TO A NEW SOVIET-
AMERICAN ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP IN THE FORM OF THE CRUEL EXIT
VISA POLICY, ~~I WANTED TO TELL MY FRIENDS HERE THAT~~ I BELIEVE
THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WILL ^{*find it to her benefit*} ~~SOON BE ANXIOUS~~ TO REDUCE
TENSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST BECAUSE OF ITS NEED FOR FOOD AND

CREDIT

Trade and Technology

LET ME SAY A WORD AT THIS POINT ABOUT THE SOVIET EXIT
VISA POLICY.

↳ THIS ISSUE IS NO LONGER A JEWISH ISSUE.

↳ IT IS AN ISSUE FELT DEEPLY BY CATHOLICS AND PROTESTANTS.

↳ IT IS AN ISSUE UNDERSTOOD BY LIBERALS AND CONSERVATIVES.

↳ IT HAS BECOME A GREAT HUMANITARIAN ISSUE THAT STANDS

IN THE WAY OF TRUE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE

UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

↳ THIS CURRENT CHALLENGE TO THE DIGNITY AND FREEDOM OF
THE JEWS IS ALSO A CHALLENGE TO THE DIGNITY AND FREEDOM OF

MANKIND THE WORLD OVER. JEW AND NON-JEW ALIKE HAVE JOINED

TOGETHER IN CONDEMNATION OF THIS REPREHENSIBLE POLICY.

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L EVERY PERSON OF CONSCIENCE AND COMPASION CANNOT HELP
 BUT RELATE TO THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWRY

L EVERY PERSON WITH A SENSE OF HISTORY CANNOT HELP BUT
 BE ANGERED THAT THE PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS STILL CONTINUES
AFTER CENTURIES.

L AND ANY PERSON CONCERNED WITH ~~THE STATUS OF~~ INTERNATIONAL
 LAW AND MORALITY CANNOT HELP BUT BE ^{adduced by} ~~ALARMED~~ AT THIS SOVIET
 POLICY. L INDEED, THE SUFFERING, THE HEARTBREAK AND THE
 ANXIETY OF THE SOVIET JEWS MUST BE FELT BY US ALL. !

and THE MAJOR OBSTACLE TO U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS IS THIS
ISSUE OF SOVIET JEWRY.

This I explained to Soviet
 leaders when I was in the Soviet
 union last December,

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Keep
I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

IS ADAMANT THAT THERE CAN BE NO "MOST FAVORED NATION" STATUS

FOR THE SOVIET UNION -- WHILE THE EMIGRATION OF THE SOVIET

JEWS IS REGULATED BY THE EXIT VISA POLICY.

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~~YOU AND I REALIZE THAT IN THIS MOOD OF GROWING WORLD~~

Our experience in finally arriving at
~~DETENTE RESULTING FROM THE VIETNAM PEACE AGREEMENTS,~~ *fortifies*

my belief that
PEACE CAN COME TO THE MIDDLE EAST ONLY THROUGH DIRECT

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE ARAB GOVERNMENTS AND ISRAEL.

h TOO OFTEN IN THE PAST OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN TOO

INSISTENT THAT THE "TERMS OF THE PEACE BE WRITTEN BEFORE

THE PARTIES SIT DOWN TO NEGOTIATE A PERMANENT PEACE.

L IF THERE ARE ANY LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM VIETNAM,
IT IS THAT ACHIEVING PEACE REQUIRES TIRELESS HARD BARGAINING
AND DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS.

L BOTH PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST MUST COME TOGETHER
TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT. THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET
UNION MUST ENCOURAGE THEIR FRIENDS TO DO SO.

L BUT ~~I BELIEVE THAT~~ WE MUST NOT FORCE ISRAEL TO COME
TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WITH PREORDAINED MAPS AND BLUEPRINTS!

~~IF THIS IS WHAT PRESIDENT NIXON WILL DEMAND OF PRIME
MINISTER GOLDA MEIR WHEN SHE COMES TO WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH,
I KNOW THAT OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PEACE WILL FAIL.~~

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WHY SHOULD WE ASK ISRAELIS TO DO SOMETHING WE WOULD
NEVER HAVE DONE IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH HANOI AND THE

VIET CONG?

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS ARE NEGOTIATIONS -- NOT RATIFICATIONS
OF ~~PRE-ARRANGED~~ PLANS. *drawn and designed by others.*

Bjt THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION MUST TAKE THE
NECESSARY STEPS TO ENCOURAGE THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS. ~~But~~

~~WE HAVE NO RIGHT TO FORMULATE PRECONDITIONS FOR THIS
PROCESS. AND CERTAINLY THE INSISTENCE BY THE ARABS ON
PRECONDITIONS BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS STANDS AS A SERIOUS
OBSTACLE TO PEACE.~~

There are no easy solutions to the search for peace.

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FORMULAS, MAPS, BLUEPRINTS CANNOT SUBSTITUTE FOR
NEGOTIATION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND HER ARAB NEIGHBORS.

THE ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE
ARE OUT OF PLACE ANYWHERE ELSE.

SO₂ TONIGHT, AS WE DISCUSS AMERICAN-ISRAELI FRIENDSHIP,

I CALL UPON AMERICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO ENCOURAGE
THIS PROCESS OF DIRECT ISRAELI-ARAB NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT
INTERFERING IN THIS PROCESS ITSELF. THERE IS A DELICATE
BORDER BETWEEN ENCOURAGEMENT AND INTERFERENCE, WHICH WE
MUST NOT CROSS.

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FINALLY, WE ALL MUST REALIZE THAT THERE CAN BE NO *real*
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITHOUT RECONCILIATION BETWEEN
THE NATIONS INVOLVED, AND RECONCILIATION REQUIRES CONTACT
BETWEEN PEOPLES.

Bruce - Conshavel

HENRY KISSINGER SAT IN THE SAME ROOM WITH LE DUC THO.

BOTH RECOGNIZED THE OTHER AS A HUMAN BEING WITH
CERTAIN NEEDS AND DESIRES. BOTH BEGAN TO UNDERSTAND THE
OTHER'S COUNTRY, PEACE IN VIETNAM WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE
WITHOUT DIRECT, PERSONAL CONTACT BETWEEN AMERICAN AND
NORTH VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS.

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THERE HAS BEEN NO HIGH LEVEL CONTACT BETWEEN ARABS AND ISRAELIS. PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER GOLDA MEIR HAVE NOT SAT DOWN TO TALK WITH ONE ANOTHER. NOR HAVE THEIR CLOSE ADVISORS DONE SO,

WE KNOW THAT IF THIS OCCURRED, ISRAEL AND HER NEIGHBORS WOULD HAVE TAKEN ONE STEP DOWN THE ROAD TO PEACE.

THIS IS WHAT THE UNITED STATES MUST ENCOURAGE. AND THIS TYPE OF RECONCILIATION MUST BE PROPOSED BY US TO THE SOVIET UNION SO THAT THEY IN TURN CAN MAKE A PROPOSAL TO ARAB LEADERS.

THERE IS MUCH WORK TO BE DONE ON BEHALF OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. BNAI ZION HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS PROCESS THROUGH FOSTERING AMERICAN-ISRAELI FRIENDSHIP.

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IN ACCEPTING YOUR AWARD I ALSO ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY
THAT GOES WITH IT: TO BE A SPOKESMAN FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH
A GREAT NATION AND TO AID ^{Israel} ~~THIS NATION~~ IN OBTAINING A PEACE
WHICH WILL BRING WITH IT SECURITY AND PROSPERITY FOR YEARS
TO COME.

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