

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND MEETING

Los Angeles, California
November 3, 1974

It is a great pleasure for me to be with you today.

I have a special fondness in my heart for the JNF.

Its work is nation-building.

Its work has led to the creation of a democratic state in an area of the world where it is difficult for the tree of democracy to take root.

Its work has meant freedom for an afflicted people.

Yes, the JNF's work in the last 73 years has led to the fulfillment of an age-old dream for the Jewish people.

The JNF has spent many years struggling to found a free nation, and then to make it prosperous and strong.

I joined your struggle in the early years of Israel's nationhood when I first came to Washington as a young Senator.

In those days it was not always popular to speak for Israel from the floor of the Senate. But with the help and encouragement of so many of my friends here, together we secured the necessary funds to help this fledgling democracy survive.

I am proud of my efforts on behalf of the state of Israel.

Proud, because I have had a small role in the history of a people consistently persecuted, but always persistent in the affirmation of human potential.

Proud, because there is a message in three millenia of struggle and survival of the Jewish people as symbolized in the struggle of the state of Israel.

There is a message in the martyrdom and nameless victims of this struggle.

And the message is: That while men may be oppressed, the urge for freedom will persist undiminished.

This is the story of Israel.

This is 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.

In America, in the Soviet Union, in 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 of others.

Isaiah said:

"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

The desert has been made fertile again.

A way has been made in the wilderness.

A people have grown strong and rich in spirit.

With God's help, with the spirit of a people yearning for freedom and with the aid of those around the world who believe in freedom, Israel has prospered.

Those who have been associated with the Jewish National Fund can look back with pride and a great sense of achievement in the world of this fine organization. You have placed an essential and lasting role in the foundation of the Jewish state.

Today Israel faces two serious problems.

The first is remaining strong and prosperous.

The second is building a lasting peace with her neighbors.

It is clear that the Yom Kippur War took a heavy toll on Israel.

The mobilization of young men reduced economic productivity.

The cost of war ran into billions. The loss of expensive military equipment meant that Israel would have to deplete its precious reserves of foreign currency to buy new weapons for its self-defense.

I am pleased that the United States came to the aid of Israel with supplemental military aid amounting to \$2.2 billion and that \$1 billion of that sum was in the form of grant assistance.

This aid was badly needed to keep Israel strong to maintain the balance of power and to convince the Arab world and the Soviet Union that we would not desert our friends.

Israel needs more assistance in order to preserve its fragile economy and maintain its military strength. The Congress has recognized this need and increased the President's insufficient request for aid to Israel in this year's Foreign Assistance Act from \$50 to \$250 million -- bringing it to the level of aid received by Egypt.

But the future of the foreign aid bill remains seriously in doubt.

The Ford Administration's failure thus far to support its own foreign aid proposals imperils the prospects for a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Unless President Ford and the Secretary of State get squarely behind the aid bill soon to be reported out of the Foreign Relations Committee, increased aid to Israel and the new aid package to Egypt and other Arab states negotiated personally by Secretary Kissinger will not be available this fiscal year.

The President has requested that Congress authorize economic assistance to several Arab countries.

I would sharply question assistance to oil producing nations which have recently been enriched by the high prices they have charged the rest of the world for vitally needed fuel exports.

However, I approve of this aid where it is needed to help rebuild and develop what are essentially poor and underdeveloped nations. It is in our humanitarian tradition to aid those in need. It is important that we demonstrate our desire to re-establish normal relations with Egypt and other countries in the region.

It is basic to achieving lasting peace and to assuring Israel's security.

But let's speak frankly about this delicate subject. A successful continuation of the Middle East peace negotiations rests on an economically viable and strong Israel. And Egypt and Syria also must be assured of an American interest in their relative well being as expressed in plans to aid them.

However, if the Administration rejects the Senate foreign aid bill once again, as it did in October, because the Senate made substantial reductions in Indochina aid and worldwide military assistance, it should realize the great damage which would be done to past American efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

Israel needs these new funds in the foreign aid bill which the Administration thus far has refused to support. Unlike its Arab neighbors, Israel does not have the new wealth of oil-rich neighbors to draw upon. Israel must depend on private and public support from its friends.

In view of the past commitments of five American presidents to the survival of Israel, the Administration's failure to support vigorously the aid measure would be a severe blow to American-Israel relations as well as a sharp break with past policy.

The time has come for President Ford and Secretary Kissinger to recognize that the Congress has an important role to play in the fashioning of a foreign aid strategy. Foreign aid is in trouble today. But the Senate has acted in a responsible manner to cut the overall Foreign Aid Act by 22 per cent. The Administration should now get behind those in the Congress who support a modest aid bill. Unless it does, the Ford Administration will be directly undermining a peace it worked so hard to create.

Finally I am certain that one of the most important factors in building a lasting peace in the Middle East will be the commitment of the United States to the security of Israel.

Despite our improved relations with the Arab world -- relations which I endorse and approve -- the American commitment to Israel needs to be strengthened.

-- The people of Israel need to know that the United States never will desert them and allow them to stand alone in any international forum -- be it the United Nations or any other body.

-- The people of Israel need to know that America will not be bullied or pressured by economic blackmail from any nation.

-- The people of Israel need to know that the American people believe that the national security of Israel can never be the subject of any negotiation.

The Congress of the United States knows of Israel's needs and will respond with compassion and understanding.

Former President Nixon and the Secretary of State gave our support to Israel during her hour of need. But at a time of fragile peace, our commitment to a friend isolated from other nations as a result of unprecedented economic pressures -- must never waiver.

Today we cannot pledge our assistance in words and then renege on our commitments in deeds.

I call upon President Ford and Secretary Kissinger to step forward and announce their unequivocal support for the legislature which contains a vital ingredient for peace in the Middle East.

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Recognized by
JNF - Bicentennial Commission

\$1,000,000 - Goal in L.A.
\$6,000,000 - Projects in
service to communities

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

U.S.
Bicentennial

By Dec 15
Chanukkah Banquet

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND MEETING

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

NOVEMBER 3, 1974

(Kocherford)
to Israel

Fred Kahan

Consul Genl - Israel -
Mr. Aviad

President ^{on leaving} Moscowitz

Wedding

Nathan Shapell

Supervision Debbs

Councilman Phactano

JNF

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE WITH YOU TODAY.

I HAVE A SPECIAL FONDNESS IN MY HEART FOR THE JNF.

h ITS WORK IS NATION-BUILDING.

*October 1948
1 yr Ago*

h ITS WORK HAS LED TO THE CREATION OF A DEMOCRATIC STATE IN AN

AREA OF THE WORLD WHERE IT IS DIFFICULT FOR THE TREE OF DEMOCRACY

TO TAKE ROOT.

h ITS WORK HAS MEANT FREEDOM FOR AN AFFLICTED PEOPLE.

h YES, THE JNF'S WORK IN THE LAST 73 YEARS HAS LED TO THE

FULFILLMENT OF AN AGE-OLD DREAM FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

h THE JNF HAS SPENT MANY YEARS STRUGGLING TO FOUND A FREE

NATION, AND THEN TO MAKE IT PROSPEROUS AND STRONG.

h I JOINED YOUR STRUGGLE IN THE EARLY YEARS OF ISRAEL'S

NATIONHOOD WHEN I FIRST CAME TO WASHINGTON AS A YOUNG SENATOR.

L IN THOSE DAYS IT WAS NOT ALWAYS POPULAR TO SPEAK FOR
ISRAEL FROM THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE. BUT WITH THE HELP AND
ENCOURAGEMENT OF SO MANY OF MY FRIENDS HERE, TOGETHER WE
SECURED THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO HELP THIS FLEDGLING DEMOCRACY
SURVIVE.

L I AM PROUD OF MY EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

I am honored to have had
~~PROUD, BECAUSE I HAVE HAD~~ A SMALL ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF *Israel*

— A PEOPLE CONSISTENTLY PERSECUTED, BUT ALWAYS PERSISTENT IN THE
AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN POTENTIAL.

Ln PROUD, BECAUSE THERE IS A MESSAGE IN *thousands of years*

7 — STRUGGLE AND SURVIVAL OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS SYMBOLIZED IN
THE STRUGGLE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

h THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THE MARTYRDOM AND NAMELESS VICTIMS OF
THIS STRUGGLE.

h AND THE MESSAGE IS: THAT WHILE MEN MAY BE OPPRESSED, THE
URGE FOR FREEDOM WILL PERSIST UNDIMINISHED.

h THIS IS THE STORY OF ISRAEL. ! *Israel in Freedom
reborn - retitled!*

h THIS IS THE STORY OF JEWISH SUFFERING AND TRIUMPH.

h THROUGH THE PAGES OF JEWISH HISTORY, THE RESOLVE OF THE
JEWISH PEOPLE HAS BEEN CLEAR, AS IT IS TODAY.

h IN AMERICA, IN THE SOVIET UNION, IN 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 OF
OTHERS.

ISAIAH SAID:

"BEHOLD, I WILL DO A NEW THING; NOW IT SHALL
SPRING FORTH; SHALL YE NOT KNOW IT? I WILL EVEN
MAKE A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS, AND RIVERS IN THE
DESERT."

L THE DESERT HAS BEEN MADE FERTILE AGAIN. - JNF

L A WAY HAS BEEN MADE IN THE WILDERNESS. - JNF

A PEOPLE HAVE GROWN STRONG AND RICH IN SPIRIT. JNF

L WITH GOD'S HELP, WITH THE SPIRIT OF A PEOPLE YEARNING

FOR FREEDOM AND WITH THE AID OF THOSE AROUND THE WORLD WHO

BELIEVE IN FREEDOM, ISRAEL HAS PROSPERED.

L THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE JEWISH NATIONAL

FUND CAN LOOK BACK WITH PRIDE AND A GREAT SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT

IN THE WORLD OF THIS FINE ORGANIZATION.

YOU HAVE PLACED AN ESSENTIAL AND LASTING ROLE IN THE FOUNDATION
OF THE JEWISH STATE.

TODAY ISRAEL FACES TWO SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

THE FIRST IS REMAINING STRONG AND PROSPEROUS.

THE SECOND IS BUILDING A LASTING PEACE WITH HER NEIGHBORS.

October 1973
IT IS CLEAR THAT THE YOM KIPPUR WAR TOOK A HEAVY TOLL ON
ISRAEL.

THE MOBILIZATION OF YOUNG MEN REDUCED ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY.

THE COST OF WAR RAN INTO BILLIONS. THE LOSS OF EXPENSIVE
MILITARY EQUIPMENT MEANT THAT ISRAEL WOULD HAVE TO DEplete ITS
PRECIOUS RESERVES OF FOREIGN CURRENCY TO BUY NEW WEAPONS FOR
ITS SELF-DEFENSE.

- U.S. Aid. \$2.7 Billion
- new Aid bill - \$250 million
- military \$55.51

P.L.O.-UN-

P.L.O.-Kabat

Alh- + Israel

U.S. Aid

I AM PLEASED THAT THE UNITED STATES CAME TO THE AID OF
ISRAEL WITH SUPPLEMENTAL MILITARY AID AMOUNTING TO \$2.2 BILLION
AND THAT \$1 BILLION OF THAT SUM WAS IN THE FORM OF GRANT
ASSISTANCE. (my role)

Israel-Congress
for Humane
Program

THIS AID WAS BADLY NEEDED TO KEEP ISRAEL STRONG TO MAINTAIN
THE BALANCE OF POWER AND TO CONVINCE THE ARAB WORLD AND THE SOVIET
UNION THAT WE WOULD NOT DESERT OUR FRIENDS.

Israel Pro-
Israel-
Terror

ISRAEL ^{still} NEEDS MORE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE ITS
FRAGILE ECONOMY AND MAINTAIN ITS MILITARY STRENGTH. THE CONGRESS

HAS RECOGNIZED THIS NEED AND INCREASED THE PRESIDENT'S

INSUFFICIENT REQUEST FOR AID TO ISRAEL IN THIS YEAR'S FOREIGN

ASSISTANCE ACT FROM \$50 TO \$250 MILLION -- BRINGING IT TO THE

LEVEL OF AID RECEIVED BY EGYPT.

and Military Aids
to 350 million

U.S. Aids to Israel - Freedom -
Too much to Dictators, Soviets etc

L BUT THE FUTURE OF THE FOREIGN AID BILL REMAINS SERIOUSLY
IN DOUBT.

L THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE THUS FAR TO SUPPORT ITS
OWN FOREIGN AID PROPOSALS IMPERILS THE PROSPECTS FOR A LASTING
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

L UNLESS PRESIDENT FORD AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE GET
SQUARELY BEHIND THE AID BILL SOON TO BE REPORTED OUT OF THE
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, INCREASED AID TO ISRAEL AND
THE NEW AID PACKAGE TO EGYPT AND OTHER ARAB STATES NEGOTIATED
PERSONALLY BY SECRETARY KISSINGER WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE THIS
FISCAL YEAR.

L THE PRESIDENT HAS REQUESTED THAT CONGRESS AUTHORIZE ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE TO SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES.

support
cannot support
I ~~WOULD SHARPLY QUESTION~~ ASSISTANCE TO OIL PRODUCING

NATIONS WHICH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN ENRICHED BY THE HIGH PRICES
THEY HAVE CHARGED THE REST OF THE WORLD FOR VITALLY NEEDED FUEL
EXPORTS.

HOWEVER, I APPROVE OF THIS AID WHERE IT IS NEEDED TO HELP
REBUILD AND DEVELOP WHAT ARE ESSENTIALLY POOR AND UNDERDEVELOPED
NATIONS. IT IS IN OUR HUMANITARIAN TRADITION TO AID THOSE IN
NEED. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE DEMONSTRATE OUR DESIRE TO
RE-ESTABLISH NORMAL RELATIONS WITH EGYPT AND OTHER COUNTRIES
IN THE REGION.

IT IS BASIC TO ACHIEVING LASTING PEACE AND TO ASSURING
ISRAEL'S SECURITY.

L BUT LET'S SPEAK FRANKLY ABOUT THIS DELICATE SUBJECT.

A SUCCESSFUL CONTINUATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

RESTS ON AN ECONOMICALLY VIABLE AND STRONG ISRAEL. L AND EGYPT

AND SYRIA ALSO MUST BE ASSURED OF AN AMERICAN INTEREST IN THEIR

RELATIVE WELL-BEING AS EXPRESSED IN PLANS TO AID THEM.

L HOWEVER, IF THE ADMINISTRATION REJECTS THE SENATE FOREIGN

AID BILL ONCE AGAIN, AS IT DID IN OCTOBER, BECAUSE THE SENATE *4 R. Smith*

MADE SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS IN INDOCHINA AID AND WORLDWIDE

MILITARY ASSISTANCE, IT SHOULD REALIZE THE GREAT DAMAGE WHICH

WOULD BE DONE TO ~~PAST~~ AMERICAN EFFORTS TO BRING PEACE TO THE

MIDDLE EAST.

ISRAEL NEEDS THESE NEW FUNDS IN THE FOREIGN AID BILL WHICH
THE ADMINISTRATION THUS FAR HAS REFUSED TO SUPPORT. UNLIKE ITS
ARAB NEIGHBORS, ISRAEL DOES NOT HAVE THE NEW WEALTH OF OIL-
RICH NEIGHBORS TO DRAW UPON. ISRAEL MUST DEPEND ON PRIVATE AND
PUBLIC SUPPORT FROM ITS FRIENDS.

L IN VIEW OF THE PAST COMMITMENTS OF FIVE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS
TO THE SURVIVAL OF ISRAEL, THE ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE TO
SUPPORT VIGOROUSLY THE AID MEASURE WOULD BE A SEVERE BLOW TO
AMERICAN-ISRAEL RELATIONS AS WELL AS A SHARP BREAK WITH PAST
POLICY.

THE TIME HAS COME FOR PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER
TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE CONGRESS HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN
THE FASHIONING OF A FOREIGN AID STRATEGY. FOREIGN AID IS IN
TROUBLE TODAY, BUT THE SENATE HAS ACTED IN A RESPONSIBLE MANNER
TO CUT THE OVERALL FOREIGN AID ACT BY 22 PER CENT. THE

ADMINISTRATION SHOULD NOW GET BEHIND THOSE IN THE CONGRESS WHO
and responsible
SUPPORT A MODEST AID BILL, UNLESS IT DOES, THE FORD ADMINISTRATION
WILL BE DIRECTLY UNDERMINING A PEACE IT WORKED SO HARD TO CREATE.

FINALLY I AM CERTAIN THAT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS
IN BUILDING A LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WILL BE THE
COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL.

④ DESPITE OUR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB WORLD -- RELATIONS
WHICH I ENDORSE AND APPROVE -- THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL
NEEDS TO BE ~~STRENGTHENED~~ *reaffirmed + strengthened,*

④ -- THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL NEED TO KNOW THAT THE UNITED STATES
NEVER WILL DESERT THEM AND ALLOW THEM TO STAND ALONE IN ANY
INTERNATIONAL FORUM -- BE IT THE UNITED NATIONS OR ANY OTHER
BODY,

④ -- THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL NEED TO KNOW THAT AMERICA WILL
NOT BE BULLIED OR PRESSURED BY ECONOMIC BLACKMAIL FROM ANY NATION.

L- THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL NEED TO KNOW THAT THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF ISRAEL CAN NEVER
BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY NEGOTIATION.

THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES KNOWS OF ISRAEL'S NEEDS
AND WILL RESPOND WITH COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING.

FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE GAVE
OUR SUPPORT TO ISRAEL DURING HER HOUR OF NEED. BUT AT A TIME
OF FRAGILE PEACE, OUR COMMITMENT TO A FRIEND ISOLATED FROM
OTHER NATIONS AS A RESULT OF UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC PRESSURES,
MUST NEVER WAIVER.

TODAY WE CANNOT PLEDGE OUR ASSISTANCE IN WORDS AND THEN
RENEGE ON OUR COMMITMENTS IN DEEDS.

I CALL UPON PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER TO
STEP FORWARD AND ANNOUNCE THEIR UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE
LEGISLATION WHICH CONTAINS A VITAL INGREDIENT FOR PEACE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST.



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