

APRIL 29, 1971

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ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

I. Introduction

- A. Spoke here ten years ago today.
- B. My theme simple. Rabbi Meyer Shapiro of Lublin once gave complicated drasha for Moas Hittim appeal. After ending, his audience discussed intricacies of his dialectic. One child was present. Rabbi to child: Did you understand what I talked about? Child: Yes, the Rabbi wanted money. Rabbi: This child understood the sermon better than anyone else...
- C. Independence Day should not only be occasion for celebration, but dedication; not only gratitude for past but commitment for future. Through U.J.A.
- D. Little that I can tell you that you cannot read in today's Times, or tomorrow's Day-Morning Journal. Let me then give you some insights I gained from my semi-Sabbatical.

II. Social Problems.

- A. "Black Panthers" should not frighten you. The real outrage is not their choice of a dramatic name, but the necessity for having to remind us of their impoverished conditions. Visit the Katamon's -- no customers for your jewels. 250,000 people below poverty level. 12 - 14 people in one and a half rooms. U.J.A.

III. Armaments Industry.

- A. No reliance on France and other countries, hence develop own military industrial complexes. My recollections of how it began when I worked for munitions research for Israel in New York in May 1948.

IV.

- A. Romanian Jews whom you meet in Jerusalem. Actually purchased, at so much and so much per head. U.J.A.

B. Russian Jews. *under the shadow of the wall.* Their tremendous spunk. Their arrival at Lod. Their demonstration for the Leningrad trials at the Kotel. Story of Natashya.

A. To do all of this Israelis have to accept cruel tax burden, highest in world, with no complaint. 90% of tax is for defense.

A. I ask you to be good Jews, not better Jews, or warm Jews: 3 types:

A. It is not enough to give, one must give adequately and sacrificially. Portions of Metzorah -- two kinds of sacrifice at occasion of cleansing, one for rich and one for poor. And law is: *13, 18, 83 80 100 1000 10000* Why? *מזבח* *זבח* says: that according to Sages one of reasons for Metzorah is *1/8 1/2*, lack of generosity, begrudging, or miserliness. Hence, if now, at moment of purification, he tries to cheat and was not willing to pay more than poor man's sacrifice though he has more, it shows he has not recuperated from *1/8 1/2*. Hence, he remains a Metzorah and Tamei.

Today too -- no real friends, and not because we are paranoid: not Brezhnev, not France, not even Fulbright. So if we are to show that we have Taharah, self respect, and dignity of selfhood, it must be through korban, through sacrificial giving; but not like a sa. I know all the excuses, the economy, etc... and the diamond people have always complained that business is bad... We must give in accordance with our means and much more; never like the sa lest we remain metoraim and impure.

IX.

מחירי זהב - $\int_{0.9}^{1.0} f(x) dx$ - 1.7