

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND ASSEMBLY

New York, New York

May 19, 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 work of this fine organization. You have played 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 may need more assistance in order to preserve its fragile economy and maintain its military strength.

We will soon be considering our foreign aid bill. I want to assure you that the Congress will take a very close look at the President's request for aid to Israel for this year. There are some very strong indications that the sum may be insufficient.

And while we are discussing the subject of foreign assistance, I want to bring you a special message.

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 I do not believe that the United States should grant economic assistance to Egypt until we have its assurances that ships of all nations -- including those flying the flag of Israel -- will be allowed passage through the Suez Canal.

The right of free Israeli passage through the Canal is guaranteed under international law and international treaty.

Israel has never been granted that right.

We know that ships of the Soviet Navy will have access to the Canal, thereby shortening the time and distance and cost involved in maintaining a military presence in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, with all that this portends.

It is a travesty and a gross injustice, if the Suez Canal is opened to Soviet ships and closed to our friend, Israel.

It makes absolutely no sense for American tax dollars to be spent for the clearing and opening of the Suez Canal, only to have our friend denied passage through this international waterway.

As a member of Congress, I will insist on fair and equal treatment for Israel. Until Israel is assured the right of passage through the Canal, I will not support the President's request for economic aid to Egypt.

I call upon Secretary Kissinger to inform the Congress and the American people of assurances that he might have obtained from President Sadat relating to Israeli use of the Suez Canal. I do not see how the Congress can approve this request until we have evidence that international law will be upheld.

Israel's second great need -- peace with her neighbors -- is an aim that has yet to be fulfilled.

Despite the very commendable efforts of Secretary Kissinger, despite the successful troop disengagement on the Egyptian front, much work remains to be done if a lasting peace is to be achieved.

A troop disengagement and a cease-fire must occur between Israel and Syria.

It is clear that the Palestinian terrorists do not want peace and will do everything in their power to sabotage peace efforts. Their inhuman attack this week is a good example of their actions which are an affront to human decency.

The nations who harbor these terrorists must realize the cancer they guard. They must realize that there can be no constructive solution to the Palestinian problem as long as the terrorism continues.

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.

And I say to you today that 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 will never 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.

The President and Secretary of State have given 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.

This is the only path to successful negotiation.

This is the only path to lasting peace.

#

Fred Kahn

- ✓ Mr. Meyer Pesin - Pres. JNF in U.S.
- ✓ Mr. Herman Weisman, Chairman
of National Assembly
- ✓ Robert Meyers
- ✓ Ambassador Uinity -
- ✓ Former Amb. - + Ch. Jacob Tzur (Zur)

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

- ✓ Mr. Israel Galdstein Galdstein
 - ✓ Rabbi Urm Berkowitz
- JEWISH NATIONAL FUND ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MAY 19, 1974

Jacob Maurice

JNF - bought up Shunam by Shunam
(1/4 acre)

(Misch-pakchak)

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

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

L ITS WORK IS NATION-BUILDING.

Nation Building!!

L 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.

L ITS WORK HAS MEANT FREEDOM FOR AN AFFLICTED PEOPLE.

Negus

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

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

L THE JNF HAS SPENT MANY YEARS STRUGGLING TO ~~FOUND~~ ^{Re-established} A FREE and

Independent Israel

NATION, AND THEN TO MAKE IT PROSPEROUS AND STRONG.

Mayer Resin

(Temple Israel - Rabbi

-2-

Truman

L 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.

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.

L PROUD, BECAUSE THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THREE ~~MILLENNIA~~ ^{thousand year}

7 STRUGGLE AND SURVIVAL OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS SYMBOLIZED IN

THE STRUGGLE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

L THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THE MARTYRDOM AND NAMELESS VICTIMS OF

THIS STRUGGLE.

L AND THE MESSAGE IS: THAT WHILE ^{People} ~~men~~ MAY BE OPPRESSED, THE

URGE FOR FREEDOM WILL PERSIST UNDIMINISHED.

L THIS IS THE STORY OF ISRAEL. !

(Herman Weissman)

L 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 Israel,
L 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.

(Jewish Struggle in Soviet Union)

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.

L A WAY HAS BEEN MADE IN THE WILDERNESS.

L A PEOPLE HAVE GROWN STRONG AND RICH IN SPIRIT.

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 *and remained free + independent*

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE JEWISH NATIONAL

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

~~IN THE WORK OF THIS FINE ORGANIZATION.~~ YOU HAVE PLAYED AN

ESSENTIAL AND LASTING ROLE IN THE FOUNDATION OF THE JEWISH

STATE.

L TODAY ISRAEL FACES TWO SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

h THE FIRST IS REMAINING STRONG AND INDEPENDENT.

h THE SECOND IS BUILDING A LASTING PEACE WITH HER NEIGHBORS.

L IT IS CLEAR THAT THE ^{October War} YOM KIPPUR WAR TOOK A HEAVY TOLL ON
ISRAEL.

L THE MOBILIZATION OF YOUNG MEN REDUCED ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY.

L THE COST OF WAR RAN INTO BILLIONS L 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.

h 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 file)

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

ISRAEL MAY NEED MORE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE ITS FRAGILE ECONOMY AND MAINTAIN ITS MILITARY STRENGTH.

WE WILL SOON BE CONSIDERING OUR FOREIGN AID BILL. I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT THE CONGRESS WILL TAKE A VERY CLOSE LOOK AT THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR AID TO ISRAEL FOR THIS YEAR. THERE ARE SOME VERY STRONG INDICATIONS THAT THE SUM MAY BE INSUFFICIENT.

AND WHILE WE ARE DISCUSSING THE SUBJECT OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, I WANT TO BRING YOU A SPECIAL MESSAGE.

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

L 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.

L 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.

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

L BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD GRANT
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT UNTIL WE HAVE ITS ASSURANCES THAT
SHIPS OF ALL NATIONS -- INCLUDING THOSE FLYING THE FLAG OF
ISRAEL -- WILL BE ALLOWED PASSAGE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

L THE RIGHT OF FREE ISRAELI PASSAGE THROUGH THE CANAL IS
GUARANTEED UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW AND INTERNATIONAL TREATY.

But ISRAEL HAS NEVER BEEN GRANTED THAT RIGHT.

L WE KNOW THAT SHIPS OF THE SOVIET NAVY WILL HAVE ACCESS
TO THE CANAL, THEREBY SHORTENING THE TIME AND DISTANCE AND
COST INVOLVED IN MAINTAINING A MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE PERSIAN
GULF AND THE INDIAN OCEAN, WITH ALL THAT THIS PORTENDS.

L ^{would be a} IT ~~IS~~ A TRAVESTY AND A GROSS INJUSTICE, IF THE SUEZ CANAL
IS OPENED TO SOVIET SHIPS AND CLOSED TO OUR FRIEND, ISRAEL.

L IT MAKES ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE FOR AMERICAN TAX DOLLARS
TO BE SPENT FOR THE CLEARING AND OPENING OF THE SUEZ CANAL,
ONLY TO HAVE OUR FRIEND DENIED PASSAGE THROUGH THIS INTERNATIONAL
WATERWAY.

L AS A MEMBER OF CONGRESS, I WILL INSIST ON FAIR AND EQUAL
TREATMENT FOR ISRAEL, UNTIL ISRAEL IS ASSURED THE RIGHT OF
PASSAGE THROUGH THE CANAL, I ~~WILL NOT~~ ^{Cannot} SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT'S
REQUEST FOR ECONOMIC AID TO EGYPT.

L I CALL UPON SECRETARY KISSINGER TO INFORM THE CONGRESS
AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OF ^{any} ASSURANCES THAT HE MIGHT HAVE
OBTAINED FROM PRESIDENT SADAT RELATING TO ISRAELI USE OF THE
SUEZ CANAL. I DO NOT SEE HOW THE CONGRESS CAN APPROVE THIS
REQUEST UNTIL WE HAVE EVIDENCE THAT INTERNATIONAL LAW WILL
BE UPHELD.

L ISRAEL'S SECOND GREAT NEED -- PEACE WITH HER NEIGHBORS --
IS AN AIM THAT HAS YET TO BE FULFILLED.

L DESPITE THE VERY COMMENDABLE EFFORTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER,
DESPITE THE SUCCESSFUL TROOP DISENGAGEMENT ON THE EGYPTIAN FRONT,
^{REMAINS}
MUCH WORK ~~REMAINS~~ TO BE DONE IF A LASTING PEACE IS TO BE ACHIEVED.

Recognition of Israel -
negotiations

L A TROOP DISENGAGEMENT AND A CEASE-FIRE MUST OCCUR BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA. - *Hard news tonight.*

L IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS DO NOT WANT PEACE AND WILL DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO SABOTAGE PEACE

EFFORTS. *#* THEIR INHUMAN ATTACK THIS WEEK IS A *par at Mah a lot.* ~~GOOD~~ EXAMPLE OF

THEIR ACTIONS WHICH ARE AN AFFRONT TO HUMAN DECENCY.

L THE NATIONS WHO HARBOR THESE TERRORISTS MUST REALIZE THE CANCER THEY GUARD. THEY MUST REALIZE THAT THERE CAN BE NO

CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AS LONG AS

THE TERRORISM CONTINUES. *U.S. + UN Condemnations*

L *v+log (Mah-a lot) my resolution* FINALLY, I AM CERTAIN THAT ^{the} ONE ~~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.

L ~~AND I SAY TO YOU TODAY THAT~~ DESPITE OUR IMPROVED

RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB WORLD -- RELATIONS WHICH I ENDORSE

AND APPROVE -- THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL NEEDS TO

BE STRENGTHENED - made unmutakable -!

L -- THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL NEED TO KNOW THAT THE UNITED

STATES WILL NEVER DESERT THEM AND ALLOW THEM TO STAND ALONE

IN ANY INTERNATIONAL FORUM -- BE IT THE UNITED NATIONS OR

ANY OTHER BODY.

L -- 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.

THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE GIVEN 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.

THIS IS THE ONLY PATH TO SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION.

THIS IS THE ONLY PATH TO LASTING PEACE.

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