

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

Columbus, Ohio

February 23, 1975

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

I have a special fondness for the UJA.

Its work has been nation building and the extension of humanitarian assistance to newly arrived immigrants.

Its work has led to the creation of a flourishing 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 UJA's work has led to the fulfillment of an age-old dream for the Jewish people -- Israel reborn.

I am honored to have had a small role in the history of Israel - a people consistently persecuted, but always persistent in the affirmation of human potential.

I am proud, because there is a message in thousands of years 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 people may be oppressed, the urge for freedom will persist undiminished.

This is the story of Israel.

Israel is freedom reborn -- rekindled!

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.

Those who have been associated with the United Jewish Appeal can look back with pride and a great sense of achievement in the work of this fine organization.

However, there is urgent work to be done right now.

Today, Israel is a nation besieged.

Israel is a nation surrounded by hostile neighbors unwilling to recognize its existence more than a quarter century after its creation.

The battle over Israel's territorial rights is being taken by her enemies beyond the Middle East.

Agents of terror are active in the airports of Europe and the Near East. And the opponents of Israel have relentlessly pressed their cause on the diplomatic front. Through a combination of economic pressures and veiled threats, the Arab nations have caused many countries to break relations with Israel or change their foreign policy toward the Jewish state.

And the pressure will continue, and it will grow. We are seeing it in Europe where banks and businesses with Jewish participants are being denied access to the lucrative petrodollar markets by Arab bankers. The Arab governments say they are trying to punish Zionist affiliated businesses. I say that their boycott reeks of anti-semitism.

Let me say tonight that the government of the United States must take action to prevent the establishment of the Arab economic boycott in the American business community. I know that it exists today and that we have closed our eyes to it.

But we will not do so any longer.

The Congress of the United States is going to investigate any such boycotts, and I believe that we should make them illegal. No foreign nation has a right to perpetrate anti-semitic policies on our shores for whatever excuse. We will not let it happen.

Today Israel finds itself under attack in many of the international organizations to which it belongs. And these attacks to isolate Israel diplomatically are being led by Arab states and Third World nations.

Only a short time ago Israel was barred from participating in UNESCO -- the United Nations Organization which handles international educational, social and cultural affairs. This is the same organization which has donated only \$28,000 to Israel, but has contributed millions to education in Egypt and other Arab lands as well as for Palestinian refugee children.

The removal of Israel from this small but important United Nations organization has set a dangerous precedent. It not only is a probe of Arab and Palestinian strength, but is also symbolic of Western weakness and disarray.

I feel certain that those who organized this insidious scheme may next attempt to expel Israel from the General Assembly of the United Nations.

If this should happen -- if Israel is barred from the General Assembly -- peace in the Middle East surely would be in jeopardy.

Furthermore, Israel's expulsion from the United Nations General Assembly could cause this peace keeping body to lose the political and financial support of the American people and their representatives in Congress. This would be a catastrophe for the United Nations and the cause of world peace.

The United Nations must not be turned into a political body which can expel those nations who at one time or another are in disfavor with the majority. If this were allowed to happen, it would signal the transformation of the United Nations from a peaceful arena into one where those championing violence and terrorism and confrontation have triumphed.

And this is not in the interest of the Arab states.

It is not in the interest of the Soviet Union or China.

And it certainly is not in the interest of Black Africa to force the state of Israel out of the United Nations and its affiliate organizations.

The voices of reason must prevail. The United Nations of 1975 must not be transformed into the League of Nations of the 1930's. World War II was born in the destruction of the League of Nations.

The time has come for this nation to ask and even to demand that its allies and friends cease their policy of acquiescence to Arab political and economic pressures. The unwillingness of the founders of the United Nations to stand up and protest represents a dangerous abdication of moral responsibility.

I will not be silent on this issue.

I count myself as one of the UN's strongest supporters in the Congress.

But I will not sit back and remain silent as I watch this body, born in the destruction of the Second World War, be perverted for political purposes by a single group of nations and their unwitting allies.

I joined with Senator Clifford Case of New Jersey in amending the Foreign Aid Bill to stop the United States' \$16 billion contribution to UNESCO until Israel is restored to its rightful place in this body.

Despite our improved relations with the Arab world -- relations which I endorse and approve -- the American commitment to Israel needs to be reaffirmed and 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. We have done this by adding an additional \$349 million in economic aid for Israel above the Administration's original request of only \$50 million. We have also provided \$300 million in military assistance.

Six Presidents -- Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford have spoken in support of Israel, and so have six Congresses.

At a time of fragile peace, our commitment to a friend isolated from other nations must never waiver.

I call upon President Ford and Secretary Kissinger to continue to give their full support to the provision of aid to Israel.

This support is imperative if Israel is going to receive the aid it needs so badly. This support is imperative to improving the chance for peace in the Middle East.

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Cochairman
Young
Mens
Division

Jeff Paine (Sunny)

Jerry Kroos (Brenda)

Bruce Zaveloff (Janet)

Heg Robbins (Betty)

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Gary Robbins (Connie)

Co-Chair
of
Dinner
"Night
for
Feb 9

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

COLUMBUS, OHIO

FEBRUARY 23, 1975

Gary & Connie Robbins
Chad-
Dean
Brett

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

I HAVE A SPECIAL FONDNESS FOR THE UJA. - *Jewish Federation*

h ITS WORK HAS BEEN NATION BUILDING AND THE EXTENSION OF

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO NEWLY ARRIVED IMMIGRANTS.

h ITS WORK HAS LED TO THE CREATION OF A FLOURISHING

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 UJA'S WORK HAS LED TO THE FULFILLMENT OF AN AGE-

OLD DREAM FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE -- ISRAEL REBORN.

h I AM HONORED TO HAVE HAD A SMALL ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF

ISRAEL - A PEOPLE CONSISTENTLY PERSECUTED, BUT ALWAYS PERSISTENT

IN THE AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN POTENTIAL.

L I AM PROUD, BECAUSE THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THOUSANDS OF
YEARS OF 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.

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

THIS IS THE STORY OF ISRAEL.

ISREAL IS FREEDOM REBORN -- REKINDLED!

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.

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED JEWISH
APPEAL CAN LOOK BACK WITH PRIDE AND A GREAT SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT
IN THE WORK OF THIS FINE ORGANIZATION.

HOWEVER, THERE IS URGENT WORK TO BE DONE RIGHT NOW.

L TODAY, ISRAEL IS A NATION BESIEGED.

Israel

L ISRAEL IS A NATION SURROUNDED BY HOSTILE NEIGHBORS

Hostile neighbors

UNWILLING TO RECOGNIZE ITS EXISTENCE MORE THAN A QUARTER

CENTURY AFTER ITS CREATION.

But, THE BATTLE OVER ISRAEL'S TERRITORIAL RIGHTS IS BEING

TAKEN BY HER ENEMIES BEYOND THE MIDDLE EAST.

Israel's struggle.

Terrorists on her Borders - in Israel
-5-

L AGENTS OF TERROR ARE ACTIVE IN THE AIRPORTS OF EUROPE

AND THE NEAR EAST. AND THE OPPONENTS OF ISRAEL HAVE

RELENTLESSLY PRESSED THEIR CAUSE ON THE DIPLOMATIC FRONT.

Diplomatic Front

L THROUGH A COMBINATION OF ECONOMIC PRESSURES AND VEILED

THREATS, THE ARAB NATIONS HAVE CAUSED MANY COUNTRIES TO BREAK

RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL OR CHANGE THEIR FOREIGN POLICY TOWARD

THE JEWISH STATE.

Arab Pressure

Arab Money

L AND THE PRESSURE WILL CONTINUE, AND IT WILL GROW, WE ARE

SEEING IT IN EUROPE WHERE BANKS AND BUSINESSES WITH JEWISH

PARTICIPANTS ARE BEING DENIED ACCESS TO THE LUCRATIVE PETRODOLLAR

MARKETS BY ARAB BANKERS. THE ARAB GOVERNMENTS SAY THEY ARE

TRYING TO PUNISH ZIONIST AFFILIATED BUSINESSES. I SAY THAT THEIR

BOYCOTT REEKS OF ANTI-SEMITISM.

L LET ME SAY TONIGHT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES
MUST TAKE ACTION TO PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARAB
ECONOMIC BOYCOTT IN THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY. I KNOW
THAT IT EXISTS TODAY AND THAT WE HAVE CLOSED OUR EYES TO IT.

L BUT WE WILL NOT DO SO ANY LONGER.

L THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES IS GOING TO INVESTIGATE
ANY SUCH BOYCOTTS, AND I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD MAKE THEM ILLEGAL.

L NO FOREIGN NATION HAS A RIGHT TO PERPETRATE ANTI-SEMITIC POLICIES
ON OUR SHORES FOR WHATEVER EXCUSE. WE ^{must} NOT LET IT HAPPEN.

L unless
TODAY ISRAEL FINDS ITSELF UNDER ATTACK IN MANY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO WHICH IT BELONGS. AND THESE

ATTACKS TO ISOLATE ISRAEL DIPLOMATICALLY ARE BEING LED BY

ARAB STATES AND THIRD WORLD NATIONS.

L ONLY A SHORT TIME AGO ISRAEL WAS BARRED FROM PARTICIPATING
IN UNESCO -- THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION WHICH HANDLES
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS.

L THIS IS THE SAME ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS DONATED ONLY \$28,000
TO ISRAEL, BUT HAS CONTRIBUTED MILLIONS TO EDUCATION IN EGYPT
AND OTHER ARAB LANDS AS WELL AS FOR PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CHILDREN.

L THE REMOVAL OF ISRAEL FROM THIS SMALL BUT IMPORTANT
UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION HAS SET A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT.

h IT NOT ONLY IS A PROBE OF ARAB AND PALESTINIAN STRENGTH, BUT
IS ALSO SYMBOLIC OF WESTERN WEAKNESS AND DISARRAY.

L I FEEL CERTAIN THAT THOSE WHO ORGANIZED THIS INSIDIOUS
SCHEME MAY NEXT ~~try~~ ATTEMPT TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

U.N.

IF THIS SHOULD HAPPEN -- IF ISRAEL IS BARRED FROM THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY -- PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST SURELY WOULD BE
IN JEOPARDY.

FURTHERMORE, ISRAEL'S EXPULSION FROM THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY COULD CAUSE THIS PEACE KEEPING BODY TO
LOSE THE POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS THIS WOULD
BE A CATASTROPHE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE CAUSE OF
WORLD PEACE.

THE UNITED NATIONS MUST NOT BE TURNED INTO A
POLITICAL BODY WHICH CAN EXPEL THOSE NATIONS WHO AT ONE TIME
OR ANOTHER ARE IN DISFAVOR WITH THE MAJORITY.

Arafat

IF THIS WERE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN, IT WOULD SIGNAL THE TRANSFORMATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS FROM A PEACEFUL ARENA INTO ONE WHERE THOSE
CHAMPIONING VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM AND CONFRONTATION HAVE
TRIUMPHED.

Arafat

~~AND THIS IS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF THE ARAB STATES,
IT IS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF THE SOVIET UNION OR CHINA,
AND IT CERTAINLY IS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF BLACK AFRICA
TO FORCE THE STATE OF ISRAEL OUT OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS
AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS.~~

THE VOICES OF REASON MUST PREVAIL. THE UNITED NATIONS OF
1975 MUST NOT BE TRANSFORMED INTO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS OF
THE 1930's. WORLD WAR II WAS BORN IN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE
LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

L THE TIME HAS COME FOR THIS NATION TO ASK AND EVEN TO
DEMAND THAT ITS ALLIES AND FRIENDS CEASE THEIR POLICY OF
ACQUIESCENCE TO ARAB POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PRESSURES. THE
UNWILLINGNESS OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO STAND
UP AND PROTEST REPRESENTS A DANGEROUS ABDICATION OF MORAL
RESPONSIBILITY.

I WILL NOT BE SILENT ON THIS ISSUE.

I COUNT MYSELF AS ONE OF THE UN'S STRONGEST SUPPORTERS
IN THE CONGRESS.

BUT I WILL NOT SIT BACK AND REMAIN SILENT AS I WATCH THIS
BODY, BORN IN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR, BE
PERVERTED FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES BY A SINGLE GROUP OF NATIONS
AND THEIR UNWITTING ALLIES.

I JOINED WITH SENATOR CLIFFORD CASE OF NEW JERSEY
IN AMENDING THE FOREIGN AID BILL TO STOP THE UNITED STATES'
\$16 BILLION CONTRIBUTION TO UNESCO UNTIL ISRAEL IS RESTORED TO
ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THIS BODY.

U.S. Commitment to Israel
DESPITE OUR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB WORLD --
RELATIONS WHICH I ENDORSE AND APPROVE -- THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT
TO ISRAEL NEEDS TO BE REAFFIRMED AND 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.

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.

L- THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES KNOWS OF ISRAEL'S NEEDS
AND WILL RESPOND WITH COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING. / WE HAVE
DONE THIS BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL \$349 MILLION IN ECONOMIC AID
FOR ISRAEL ABOVE THE ADMINISTRATION'S ORIGINAL REQUEST OF ONLY
\$50 MILLION. WE HAVE ALSO PROVIDED \$300 MILLION IN MILITARY
ASSISTANCE.

2 SIX PRESIDENTS -- TRUMAN, EISENHOWER, KENNEDY, JOHNSON,
NIXON AND FORD HAVE SPOKEN IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL, AND SO HAVE
SIX CONGRESSES.

AT A TIME OF FRAGILE PEACE, OUR COMMITMENT TO A FRIEND
ISOLATED FROM OTHER NATIONS MUST NEVER WAIVER.

I CALL UPON PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER TO
CONTINUE TO GIVE THEIR FULL SUPPORT TO THE PROVISION OF AID
TO ISRAEL.

THIS SUPPORT IS IMPERATIVE IF ISRAEL IS GOING TO RECEIVE
THE AID IT NEEDS SO BADLY. THIS SUPPORT IS IMPERATIVE TO
IMPROVING THE CHANCE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

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