

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

STATE OF ISRAEL BOND ORGANIZATION

MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Chicago, Illinois

December 16, 1975

It is a great honor for me to receive this award.

In fact, I am doubly honored. First, because the award is presented by a dear friend whom I respect and admire for his great contribution to both the United States and Israel. I speak of Judge Abraham Lincoln Marovitz, a man who has toiled long and hard so that Israel may be strong and free.

And I am further honored by the fact that I receive this award from an organization instrumental in the founding and building of a democratic state.

The work of the Israel Bond Organization has led to the fulfillment of an age old dream for the Jewish people.

There is a message for us in the struggle and survival of the Jewish people as symbolized in the creation of the state of Israel.

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

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

This is the story of Israel.

Israel is freedom reborn and rebuilt.

Let us not forget this.

When democratic governments are falling by the wayside, let us not forget that every true democracy is precious.

When countless multitudes lose their freedom, let us not forget what we must do to protect those who remain free.

And when totalitarian governments of the right and the left join forces to condemn those who are free, let us respond in word and in deed.

Israel is free. Let us not forget this. And let us not forget the responsibility it places on us a free people to aid Israel so that its freedom is preserved.

As a member of the Congress I accept this responsibility and the obligation that goes with it.

I know that my colleagues share my concern and stand ready, as I do, to approve the full amount of the President's request for economic and military aid to Israel.

I soon will have the privilege of managing this legislation on the floor of the United States Senate. I can assure you that I will make every possible effort to see that the total amount of \$2.3 billion is approved and that all amendments to reduce this aid are soundly defeated.

I could not come before you this evening without sharing with you my concern about the future of Israel and the prospects for peace in the Middle East.

I firmly believe that a strong Israel is the best deterrent to war and the best hope we have to obtain further peace agreements.

But as we help Israel, other nations in the region are becoming significantly stronger with the help of the United States, the Soviet Union, and European nations. This poses a grave risk to the present balance of power in the region and to Israel's security.

Let's take a look at the facts:

-- Russian military aid to Syria has been termed "massive" by arms experts. The Soviet Union can be counted on to continue its delivery of tanks and sophisticated aircraft to Syria. The new, advanced Scud missile recently has been supplied to Syria by the Soviets, which brings every city in Israel within its range.

-- The President of France just announced that his government will help Egypt build its own armaments industry.

-- The United States has embarked on a policy of sales of billions of dollars of armaments and defense services to countries that could become combatants against Israel in another war.

-- The Ford Administration does not calculate the forces of any countries other than Egypt and Syria in assessing the balance of power in the Middle East.

-- But we have sold \$4.3 billion worth of arms and defense services to Saudi Arabia since 1972. Given its appetite for arms and its incredible buying power, we will sell Saudi Arabia even more weapons next year.

-- American sales of weapons and defense services to Iran since 1972 have totaled approximately \$9 billion. Though Iran is more removed from a potential conflict, the volatile policies of the Middle East and Persian Gulf conceivably could bring about Iranian involvement in a regional war. The State Department has confirmed that Iran has trained some Egyptian fighter pilots.

-- And America's allies in Europe have sold and will continue to sell Libya and Iraq weapons which could be used against Israel.

-- The possibility of a commitment of men and arms against Israel from Jordan, Sudan and Morocco in another war cannot be discounted.

The details I have just read are not pleasant. I do not like to contemplate the possibility of another outbreak of fighting in the Middle East. I pray that it would not occur. But governments must make basic calculations of military strength in formulating policy.

It is naive to think that Arab forces beyond those in Egypt and Syria would be disinterested bystanders if renewed fighting occurred.

It is difficult for the United States to control the actions of other nations.

But I believe that America's arms sales policies clearly are out of control.

They are inconsistent with the stated policy of this nation to seek peace in the Middle East and to aid Israel to defend itself.

It is tragically ironic, but I believe that America's arms sales policies could pose a grave risk to the State of Israel if there were to be another war in the Middle East.

We have come to this sorry state of affairs because we have eagerly sought short term policy gains while forgetting the long range implications of our actions.

If America continues to sell arms to OPEC nations and OPEC allies at current levels, the military balance of power in the Middle East will dramatically shift against Israel in the next five years. And this shift in the balance of power could severely jeopardize Israel's security.

I have introduced legislation with Senator Clifford Case of New Jersey that will begin to bring rationality and control to America's arms sales programs.

But legislation is not the final answer.

The President and Secretary of State must take steps to alter the fundamental policy of supplying arms to the highest bidder regardless of the potential danger these sales pose to America's friends.

I would remind Secretary Kissinger and President Ford that friendship cannot be purchased with arms.

I strongly suggest to them that our arms policy is dangerous and destabilizing and potentially destructive.

I call upon them to support the Humphrey-Case bill now pending in the Senate. The wholesale distribution of American weapons must be curtailed and our policymakers must assess the ultimate consequences of their decisions.

I call upon them to sit down and work with the Congress to devise an overall policy which will lessen the risk of war and destruction in the Middle East.

Twenty-seven hundred years ago at a dark hour of Jewish history, when the Assyrians had conquered the ten northern tribes and were about to lay siege to Jerusalem, the prophet Amos confronted his people with this divine promise:

"I will turn back the captivity of my people. And they shall rebuild the wasted cities and inhabit them. And they shall plant vineyards and drink the sweet wine, and they shall make gardens and eat the fruit, and I will plant them upon their lands, and they shall no more be cast out of the land which I had given, saith the Lord God."

The promise of Amos has come true.

Twenty-seven years ago Israel was born -- I should say that Israel was reborn.

If Israel is to remain a viable haven of freedom, then it must remain strong. If this is the goal of the United States -- as I believe it must be -- then we must act accordingly and make our policies consistent with our beliefs.

#

Mr Berger

Banquet Chairman, Ira Harris - Mr Berger
Fund Campaign Chm - Sal Goldstein ✓
✓ Dr Kupat (Kup)

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Zah-Dack

minutes of Hotel Haim Zadock

STATE OF ISRAEL YOUTH ORGANIZATION

Judge Marovitz ✓

MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

✓ David Zisman

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Israel Council
~~MEMBER~~
A HED
AV-RIEh

DECEMBER 16, 1975

Man of the Year

(David Zisman)

Past men of the year since 1955
starting with my friend Henry Burman

Harvey T. Run
Dr Kupat
Judge Marovitz
Arnie Goldberg
Adlai Stevenson

Henry Jackson
Sen Charles Percy
Jack Aracy

L IT IS A GREAT HONOR FOR ME TO RECEIVE THIS AWARD.

L IN FACT, I AM DOUBLY HONORED FIRST, BECAUSE THE AWARD

IS PRESENTED BY ^{my} ~~my~~ DEAR FRIEND WHOM I RESPECT AND ADMIRE FOR HIS

GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL ~~the~~

^{who has served}
d SPEAK OF JUDGE ABRAHAM LINCOLN MAROVITZ, A MAN WHO HAS TOILED

LONG AND HARD SO THAT ISRAEL MAY BE STRONG AND FREE,

L AND I AM FURTHER HONORED BY THE FACT THAT I RECEIVE THIS

AWARD FROM AN ORGANIZATION ^{so} INSTRUMENTAL IN THE ~~building~~

BUILDING OF A DEMOCRATIC STATE ^{a free & independent nation}

L THE WORK OF THE ISRAEL BOND ORGANIZATION HAS ^{led} TO THE

FULFILLMENT OF AN AGE OLD DREAM FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE,

L THERE IS A MESSAGE FOR US IN THE STRUGGLE AND SURVIVAL

OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS SYMBOLIZED IN THE CREATION OF THE STATE

OF ISRAEL.

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

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

THIS IS THE STORY OF ISRAEL, — *Freedom, Undiminished*

ISRAEL IS FREEDOM REBORN AND REBUILT.

LET US ^{never} ~~NOT~~ FORGET THIS!

WHEN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS ARE FALLING BY THE WAYSIDE,
LET US NOT FORGET THAT EVERY ~~THE~~ DEMOCRACY IS PRECIOUS.

WHEN COUNTLESS MULTITUDES LOSE THEIR FREEDOM, LET US NOT
FORGET WHAT WE MUST DO TO PROTECT THOSE WHO REMAIN FREE,

AND WHEN TOTALITARIAN GOVERNMENTS OF THE RIGHT AND THE
LEFT JOIN FORCES TO CONDEMN THOSE WHO ARE FREE, LET US RESPOND

IN WORD AND IN DEED. *And let our answer to the*

U.M. Republican calling Zionism, Racism
be a ~~contribution to a~~ ~~help~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~
more help support for Israel.

yes ~~and~~

ISRAEL IS FREE. LET US NOT FORGET THIS. AND LET US

NOT FORGET THE RESPONSIBILITY IT PLACES ON US, ^{AS} A FREE PEOPLE TO

AID ISRAEL SO THAT ~~the~~ ^{freedom} FREEDOM IS PRESERVED.

Bonds needed
ex. aid needed

AS A MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS, I ACCEPT THIS RESPONSIBILITY

AND THE OBLIGATION THAT GOES WITH IT. and,

I KNOW THAT MY COLLEAGUES SHARE MY CONCERN AND STAND

READY, AS I DO, TO APPROVE THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE PRESIDENT'S

REQUEST FOR ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL. ^{2.300 Billion}

I SOON WILL HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF MANAGING THIS

LEGISLATION ON THE FLOOR OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE. I CAN

ASSURE YOU THAT I WILL MAKE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO SEE THAT

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2.3 BILLION IS APPROVED AND THAT ALL

^{desired} AMENDMENTS TO REDUCE THIS AID ARE ~~simply~~ DEFEATED.

To Day $\$1.5$ Billion military - $\frac{1}{2}$ grant
Balance credits - 10 yr grace period 20 yrs
 $\$755$ million Economic Aid #

I COULD NOT COME BEFORE YOU THIS EVENING WITHOUT SHARING

WITH YOU MY CONCERN ABOUT THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL AND THE PROSPECTS

FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT A STRONG ISRAEL IS THE BEST DETERRENT

TO WAR AND THE BEST HOPE WE HAVE TO OBTAIN FURTHER PEACE AGREEMENTS.

BUT, AS WE HELP ISRAEL, OTHER NATIONS IN THE REGION ARE

BECOMING SIGNIFICANTLY STRONGER WITH THE HELP OF THE UNITED STATES,

THE SOVIET UNION, AND EUROPEAN NATIONS. ^{+U.S.} THIS POSES A GRAVE

RISK TO THE PRESENT BALANCE OF POWER IN THE REGION AND TO

ISRAEL'S SECURITY.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE FACTS:

-- RUSSIAN MILITARY AID TO SYRIA HAS BEEN TERMED "MASSIVE"

BY ARMS EXPERTS. THE SOVIET UNION CAN BE COUNTED ON TO CONTINUE

ITS DELIVERY OF TANKS AND SOPHISTICATED AIRCRAFT TO SYRIA.

h THE NEW, ADVANCED SCUD MISSILE RECENTLY HAS BEEN SUPPLIED TO
SYRIA BY THE SOVIETS, WHICH BRINGS EVERY CITY IN ISRAEL WITHIN
ITS RANGE.

h -- THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE JUST ANNOUNCED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT
WILL HELP EGYPT BUILD ITS OWN ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY.

h THE UNITED STATES HAS EMBARKED ON A POLICY OF SALES OF
BILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF ARMAMENTS AND DEFENSE SERVICES TO COUNTRIES
THAT COULD BECOME COMBATANTS AGAINST ISRAEL IN ANOTHER WAR.

h -- THE FORD ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT CALCULATE THE FORCES
OF ANY COUNTRIES OTHER THAN EGYPT AND SYRIA IN ASSESSING THE
BALANCE OF POWER IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

h -- BUT WE HAVE SOLD \$4.3 BILLION WORTH OF ARMS AND DEFENSE
SERVICES TO SAUDI ARABIA SINCE 1972. GIVEN ITS APPETITE FOR ARMS
AND ITS INCREDIBLE BUYING POWER, WE WILL SELL SAUDI ARABIA EVEN
MORE WEAPONS NEXT YEAR.

L-- AMERICAN SALES OF WEAPONS AND DEFENSE SERVICES TO IRAN
SINCE 1972 HAVE TOTALED APPROXIMATELY \$9 BILLION. / THOUGH IRAN
IS MORE REMOVED FROM A POTENTIAL CONFLICT, THE VOLATILE POLITICS
OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND PERSIAN GULF CONCEIVABLY COULD BRING
ABOUT IRANIAN INVOLVEMENT IN A REGIONAL WAR. / THE STATE
DEPARTMENT HAS CONFIRMED THAT IRAN HAS TRAINED SOME EGYPTIANS
FIGHTER PILOTS.

L-- AND AMERICA'S ALLIES IN EUROPE HAVE SOLD AND WILL CONTINUE TO
SELL LIBYA AND IRAQ WEAPONS WHICH COULD BE USED AGAINST ISRAEL.

L-- THE POSSIBILITY OF A COMMITMENT OF MEN AND ARMS AGAINST
ISRAEL FROM JORDAN, SUDAN AND MOROCCO IN ANOTHER WAR CANNOT BE
DISCOUNTED.

L THE DETAILS I HAVE JUST READ ARE NOT PLEASANT. L I DO NOT
LIKE TO CONTEMPLATE THE POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER OUTBREAK OF
FIGHTING IN THE MIDDLE EAST. L I PRAY THAT IT ~~WILL~~ ^{will} NOT OCCUR,

L BUT, GOVERNMENTS MUST MAKE BASIC CALCULATIONS OF MILITARY
STRENGTH IN FORMULATING POLICY.

L IT IS NAIVE TO THINK THAT ARAB FORCES BEYOND THOSE IN EGYPT
AND SYRIA WOULD BE DISINTERESTED BYSTANDERS IF RENEWED FIGHTING ^{in the}
OCCURRED.

L IT IS DIFFICULT FOR THE UNITED STATES TO CONTROL THE ACTIONS
OF OTHER NATIONS.

L BUT I BELIEVE THAT AMERICA'S ARMS SALES POLICIES CLEARLY
ARE OUT OF CONTROL.

L THEY ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE STATED POLICY OF THIS NATION
TO SEEK PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND TO AID ISRAEL TO DEFEND ITSELF.

L IT IS TRAGICALLY IRONIC, BUT I BELIEVE THAT AMERICA'S ARMS
SALES POLICIES COULD POSE A GRAVE RISK TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL
IF THERE WERE TO BE ANOTHER WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

L WE HAVE COME TO THIS SORRY STATE OF AFFAIRS BECAUSE WE
HAVE EAGERLY SOUGHT SHORT TERM POLICY GAINS WHILE FORGETTING
THE LONG RANGE IMPLICATIONS OF OUR ACTIONS.

L IF AMERICA CONTINUES TO SELL ARMS TO OPEC NATIONS AND
OPEC ALLIES AT CURRENT LEVELS, THE MILITARY BALANCE OF POWER IN
THE MIDDLE EAST WILL DRAMATICALLY SHIFT AGAINST ISRAEL IN THE
NEXT FIVE YEARS. (AND THIS SHIFT IN THE BALANCE OF POWER COULD
SEVERELY JEOPARDIZE ISRAEL'S SECURITY. - *Therefore*

L I HAVE INTRODUCED LEGISLATION WITH SENATOR CLIFFORD CASE
OF NEW JERSEY THAT WILL BEGIN TO BRING RATIONALITY AND CONTROL TO
AMERICA'S ARMS SALES PROGRAMS.

L BUT LEGISLATION IS NOT THE FINAL ANSWER.

L THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE MUST TAKE STEPS TO
ALTER THE FUNDAMENTAL POLICY OF SUPPLYING ARMS TO THE HIGHEST
BIDDER REGARDLESS OF THE POTENTIAL DANGER THESE SALES POSE
TO AMERICA'S FRIENDS.

L I WOULD REMIND SECRETARY KISSINGER AND PRESIDENT FORD THAT
FRIENDSHIP CANNOT BE PURCHASED WITH ARMS.

L I STRONGLY SUGGEST TO THEM THAT OUR ARMS POLICY IS DANGEROUS
AND DESTABILIZING AND POTENTIALLY DESTRUCTIVE.

L I CALL UPON THEM TO SUPPORT THE HUMPHREY-CASE BILL NOW
PENDING IN THE SENATE. L THE WHOLESAL
WEAPONS MUST BE CURTAILED AND OUR POLICYMAKERS MUST ASSESS THE
ULTIMATE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR DECISIONS.

L I CALL UPON THEM TO SIT DOWN AND WORK WITH THE CONGRESS TO
DEVELOP AN OVERALL POLICY WHICH WILL LESSEN THE RISK OF WAR AND
DESTRUCTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

L TWENTY-SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS AGO ~~IN~~ A DARK HOUR OF JEWISH
HISTORY, WHEN THE ASSYRIANS HAD CONQUERED THE TEN NORTHERN
TRIBES AND WERE ABOUT TO LAY SEIGE TO JERUSALEM, THE PROPHET

Amos
AMOS CONFRONTED HIS PEOPLE WITH THIS DIVINE PROMISE:

L "I WILL TURN BACK THE CAPTIVITY OF MY PEOPLE,

AND THEY SHALL REBUILD THE WASTED CITIES AND INHABIT

THEM. L AND THEY SHALL PLANT VINEYARDS AND DRINK THE

SWEET WINE, AND THEY SHALL MAKE GARDENS AND EAT THE

FRUIT, AND I WILL PLANT THEM UPON THEIR LANDS, AND

THEY SHALL NO MORE BE CAST OUT OF THE LAND WHICH I HAD

GIVEN, SAITH THE LORD GOD."



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org