

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
THE LOUIS D. BRANDEIS ZIONIST DISTRICT
SPECIAL AWARDS DINNER

Washington, D. C.

May 17, 1977

To be the recipient of an award in the name of one of our greatest Supreme Court Justices -- Louis D. Brandeis -- is something I will forever deeply cherish.

And I also welcome this opportunity to talk with you about two of my favorite subjects -- Israel and education. These are particularly appropriate subjects for the Louis D. Brandeis Zionist District which has been so instrumental and so successful in supporting both. Your distinguished and dedicated President, Henry Goldman, should be especially commended for the leadership he has given to the Louis D. Brandeis Zionist District.

I also want to take this opportunity to pay special tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Hassan whose contributions to education in this country, and whose unselfish support of the Kfar Silver Agricultural and Technical Schools in Israel, are deeply appreciated and acknowledged by us all.

The Zionist Organization of America has played a strong role in 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 work of the Zionist Organization 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 the 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, and it also is the story of the commitment of the United States to the survival of an independent Jewish state in the Middle East.

Except for longstanding obligations to NATO and Japan, few aspects of American foreign policy have been as firm and as long-lasting as the commitment to the support of an independent and secure Israel.

Presidents of vastly different political persuasions have made the support of Israel a fundamental element of American foreign policy.

Our policy has been predicated upon historical, moral, strategic and political grounds.

Israel's right to exist as a free and independent state is not negotiable.

It is necessary for Americans to understand and appreciate Israel's position and her reluctance to give up conquered territory without effective guarantees.

Israelis remember all too well what happened after the Sinai campaign of 1956. They withdrew from the Suez Canal and all territory conquered at that time and they trusted the paper guarantees they were given.

A United Nations force was stationed in Sinai at Sharm el-Sheikh. But all it took was one word from Egyptian President Nasser, and the U.N. personnel were removed. This, of course, set the stage for the 1967 war. And we all recall only too well the events of the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

There are those who warn that the U.S. is becoming too heavily tied to Israel, both economically and militarily.

Yet, the goal of the United States is to deter wars from occurring or to minimize adverse consequences to the U.S. if they do occur.

Our military and economic aid to Israel is fully in the American interest. Unless a credible balance of power is maintained in the Middle East, there can be no genuine progress in efforts to achieve a permanent peace there.

But it has not been just dollars and military equipment from America which has helped Israel remain a viable, independent nation.

It has taken more than money to make a desert bloom with agricultural production.

And it has taken more than money to build a viable economy which takes care of all of its citizens with decency and dignity.

Yes, there is a lesson for America in the enduring struggle of that small Jewish Democracy.

It is a lesson that says a people and a nation are made strong because they believe in themselves -- they believe in their God -- and they believe in the fundamental rightness of their existence.

This is nation building.

Yet, it would be impossible to discuss nation building without dealing with the subject of education.

To a young nation, its progressive and innovative educational system has been its life's blood.

To a people striving for their freedom, education has been an important weapon in their struggle. And the Kfar Silver Agricultural and Technical schools are on the front-lines of this important endeavor.

Throughout history those who have wanted to crush the Jewish people have never succeeded.

Why? Because the emperors, the Pharaohs, the Czars and the dictators never could extinguish the spirit of Judaism as it was passed from father to son through the written and spoken word. Without the Jewish thirst for education of the young, Judaism would have died long ago.

In few places today is the solemn commitment to education more strong than in the state of Israel.

But in building an effective educational structure, Israel had a special problem. It was, and still is, a land of immigrants -- people from different backgrounds and cultures.

The task of education for Israel has been the challenge of providing all types of Jewish immigrants with a good education.

Israel has assumed this great obligation to provide all of its young -- rich, poor, African, Asian and Occidental -- with the type of education that would make the young nation a viable democracy. And the Kfar Silver Agricultural and Technical schools have been instrumental in this process.

The Israeli educational experiment is an on-going success. It is a process of molding Jewish diversity into vibrant nationhood. Because of Israel's commitment to primary and secondary education, and the tremendous support of these efforts by the Louis D. Brandeis Zionist District, the great potential for ethnic and cultural divisiveness among its people largely has been overcome.

There is a lesson for America in Israel's educational system. And that lesson is that economic status should not be the limit of educational opportunity.

Israel's strength today, beyond arms -- beyond its tanks and planes -- is found in its people. As the great prophet Zachariah proclaimed: "Not with strength and not with armed might, but with my spirit will you prevail, saith the Lord God."

It is this spirit, fueled by an educational system second to none, which makes Israel strong today.

The Jewish people brought to the New World their age-old struggle to be free. It is here in America that the memories of tyranny have kept alive the vigilance of the Jewish people to the threats against freedom.

And it is here in America that the Jewish concept of social and economic justice as the cornerstone of freedom was joined with the Jeffersonian and Jacksonian ideals of equality. Together they form a potent force -- a force capable of guaranteeing that we remain a free, vibrant, open society in which all men and women can make the most of their God-given talent.

What does all this mean in the context of U.S.-Israeli relationships? It means there is more at stake than only military or security considerations.

The Jews of the world have made indispensable contributions to the humanity, freedom and civilization of mankind. These values are inherent in the State of Israel. If we allowed Israel to go under, it would mean the destruction of our own values and goals as a nation. For it is our own spiritual and moral ties to Israel which form the underpinning of our special relationship with that country.

Again, I deeply appreciate this honor you have bestowed upon me tonight.

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- ✓ Jan Halling
- may leader Jim Wright
- ✓ Cecil Andrews

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz

Rabbi Halpern
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT

President Henry Waldman (Rocelle)

SPECIAL AWARDS DINNER

- SOL Margolis

~~Carol Ann~~

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Muriel

MAY 17, 1977

Ambassador Demitz (Linda) & Vivian

Vic Pres. Mondale - on Mission

Ⓚ Senators & Congressmen
(Like a Joint Session)

always wanted to Address

TO BE THE RECIPIENT OF AN AWARD IN THE NAME OF ONE OF OUR
GREATEST SUPREME COURT JUSTICES -- LOUIS D. BRANDEIS -- IS SOMETHING
I WILL FOREVER DEEPLY CHERISH.

AND I ALSO WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH YOU ABOUT
TWO OF MY FAVORITE SUBJECTS -- ISRAEL AND EDUCATION. THESE ARE
PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE SUBJECTS FOR THE LOUIS D. BRANDEIS
ZIONIST DISTRICT WHICH HAS BEEN SO INSTRUMENTAL AND SO SUCCESSFUL
IN SUPPORTING BOTH YOUR DISTINGUISHED AND DEDICATED PRESIDENT,
HENRY GOLDMAN, SHOULD BE ESPECIALLY COMMENDED FOR THE LEADERSHIP
HE HAS GIVEN TO THE LOUIS D. BRANDEIS ZIONIST DISTRICT.

I ALSO WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PAY SPECIAL
TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. ALEXANDER HASSAN WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS
TO EDUCATION IN THIS COUNTRY, AND WHOSE UNSELFISH SUPPORT

OF THE KFAR SILVER AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS IN

ISRAEL, ARE DEEPLY APPRECIATED AND ACKNOWLEDGED BY US ALL.

✱
/ THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA HAS PLAYED A STRONG ROLE

IN 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} ~~FROM~~ AN AFFLICTED PEOPLE.

/ YES, THE WORK OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION 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 ^{long} ~~CONSTANTLY~~ PERSECUTED BUT ALWAYS PERSISTENT

IN THE AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN POTENTIAL.

← ~~IT ALL FROUD~~ THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THE 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~~ ^{that} MESSAGE IS THAT WHILE PEOPLE MAY BE OPPRESSED, THE
URGE FOR FREEDOM WILL PERSIST UNDIMINISHED -

*anywhere -
everywhere -
in the
the Middle
East
USSR*

← THIS IS THE STORY OF ISRAEL, AND IT ALSO IS THE STORY OF THE
COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE SURVIVAL OF AN INDEPENDENT
JEWISH STATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

*Those who love freedom -
who fight for freedom -
deserve our support &
friendship*

← EXCEPT FOR LONGSTANDING OBLIGATIONS TO NATO, ~~AND~~ FEW
ASPECTS OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY HAVE BEEN AS FIRM AND AS LONG-
LASTING AS THE COMMITMENT TO THE SUPPORT OF AN INDEPENDENT AND
SECURE ISRAEL.

(7. Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter)
-4-

↳ PRESIDENTS OF VASTLY DIFFERENT POLITICAL PERSUASIONS HAVE MADE
THE SUPPORT OF ISRAEL A FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT OF AMERICAN FOREIGN
POLICY.

↳ OUR POLICY HAS BEEN ~~FORMED~~ ^{based} UPON HISTORICAL, MORAL, STRATEGIC
AND POLITICAL GROUNDS.

↳ ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AS A FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATE IS
NOT NEGOTIABLE.

↳ IT IS NECESSARY FOR AMERICANS TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE
ISRAEL'S POSITION AND HER RELUCTANCE TO GIVE UP CONQUERED
TERRITORY WITHOUT EFFECTIVE GUARANTEES.

↳ ISRAELIS REMEMBER ALL TOO WELL WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE SINAI
CAMPAIGN OF 1956. ↳ THEY WITHDREW FROM THE SUEZ CANAL AND ALL
TERRITORY CONQUERED AT THAT TIME AND THEY TRUSTED THE PAPER
GUARANTEES THEY WERE GIVEN.

L A UNITED NATIONS FORCE WAS STATIONED IN SINAI AT SHARM
EL-SHEIKH, L BUT ALL IT TOOK WAS ONE WORD FROM EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT
NASSER, AND THE U.N. PERSONNEL WERE REMOVED. L THIS, OF COURSE,
SET THE STAGE FOR THE 1967 WAR. L AND WE ALL RECALL ONLY TOO WELL

THE EVENTS OF THE 1973 YOM KIPPUR WAR — *and a attack by Israeli
neighbors at the time of the High Holy Days.*

L THERE ARE THOSE WHO WARN THAT THE U.S. IS BECOMING TOO
HEAVILY TIED TO ISRAEL, BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND MILITARILY,

L YET, THE GOAL OF THE UNITED STATES IS TO DETER WARS FROM
OCCURRING OR TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES TO THE U.S. IF THEY
DO OCCUR.

L OUR MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID TO ISRAEL IS FULLY IN THE
AMERICAN INTEREST. L UNLESS A CREDIBLE BALANCE OF POWER IS MAINTAINED
IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THERE CAN BE NO GENUINE PROGRESS IN EFFORTS
~~that~~
TO ACHIEVE A PERMANENT PEACE THERE.

L BUT IT HAS NOT BEEN JUST DOLLARS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM AMERICA WHICH HAS HELPED ISRAEL REMAIN A VIABLE, INDEPENDENT NATION.

L IT HAS TAKEN MORE THAN MONEY TO MAKE A DESERT BLOOM WITH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

L AND IT HAS TAKEN MORE THAN MONEY TO BUILD ^{an} ~~AN~~ ECONOMY WHICH ^{needs to take} ~~TAKES~~ CARE OF ALL OF ITS CITIZENS WITH DECENCY AND DIGNITY.

L YES, THERE IS A LESSON FOR AMERICA IN THE ENDURING STRUGGLE OF THAT SMALL JEWISH DEMOCRACY.

L IT IS A LESSON THAT SAYS A PEOPLE AND A NATION ARE MADE STRONG BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES -- THEY BELIEVE IN THEIR GOD -- AND THEY BELIEVE IN THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTNESS OF THEIR EXISTENCE.

L THIS IS NATION BUILDING — ~~THIS IS TRUE NATIONAL SECURITY~~
This is true national security

LET, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO DISCUSS NATION BUILDING WITHOUT DEALING WITH THE SUBJECT OF EDUCATION.

*" Jefferson wrote -
No nation can hope to be
both ignorant and free "*

TO A YOUNG NATION, ITS PROGRESSIVE AND INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM HAS BEEN ITS LIFE'S BLOOD. - U.S. Early Educa. - !

TO A PEOPLE STRIVING FOR THEIR FREEDOM, EDUCATION HAS BEEN

AN IMPORTANT WEAPON IN THEIR STRUGGLE. AND THE KEAR SILVER

AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS ARE ON THE FRONT-LINES OF

THIS IMPORTANT ENDEAVOR.

THROUGHOUT HISTORY THOSE WHO HAVE WANTED TO CRUSH THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE NEVER SUCCEEDED.

WHY? BECAUSE THE EMPERORS, THE PHARAOKS, THE CZARS AND THE

*Commission,
the*

DICTATORS NEVER COULD EXTINGUISH THE SPIRIT OF JUDAISM AS IT

mother to daughter

WAS PASSED FROM FATHER TO SON THROUGH THE WRITTEN AND SPOKEN WORD.

The words of the Prophets of Israel are eternal -

h WITHOUT THE JEWISH THIRST FOR EDUCATION OF THE YOUNG, JUDAISM

WOULD HAVE DIED LONG AGO,

IN FEW PLACES TODAY IS THE SOLEMN COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

MORE STRONG THAN IN THE STATE OF ISRAEL

L BUT IN BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE EDUCATIONAL STRUCTURE, ISRAEL

HAD A SPECIAL PROBLEM. IT WAS, AND STILL IS, A LAND OF IMMIGRANTS --

PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS AND CULTURES,

L THE TASK OF EDUCATION FOR ISRAEL HAS BEEN THE CHALLENGE OF
PROVIDING ALL TYPES OF JEWISH IMMIGRANTS WITH A GOOD EDUCATION,

L ISRAEL HAS ASSUMED THIS GREAT OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE ALL OF
ITS YOUNG -- RICH, POOR, AFRICAN, ASIAN AND OCCIDENTAL -- WITH

THE TYPE OF EDUCATION THAT WOULD MAKE THE YOUNG NATION A working

DEMOCRACY,

AND THE KFAR SILVER AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS HAVE
BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN THIS PROCESS.

L THE ISRAELI EDUCATIONAL EXPERIMENT IS AN ON-GOING SUCCESS!

L IT IS A PROCESS OF MOLDING JEWISH DIVERSITY INTO VIBRANT

NATIONHOOD. BECAUSE OF ISRAEL'S COMMITMENT TO PRIMARY AND

SECONDARY EDUCATION, AND THE TREMENDOUS SUPPORT OF THESE

EFFORTS BY THE LOUIS D. BRANDEIS ZIONIST DISTRICT, THE GREAT

POTENTIAL FOR ETHNIC AND CULTURAL DIVISIVENESS AMONG ITS

PEOPLE is being ~~is being~~ OVERCOME.

L THERE IS A LESSON FOR AMERICA IN ISRAEL'S EDUCATIONAL

SYSTEM. AND THAT LESSON IS THAT ECONOMIC STATUS SHOULD NOT

BE THE LIMIT OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

The right to learn - must be
the right to an education is the solemn obligation + the assured opportunity of every Israeli + every American.

ISRAEL'S STRENGTH TODAY, BEYOND ARMS -- BEYOND ITS TANKS

AND PLANES -- IS FOUND IN ITS PEOPLE. AS THE GREAT PROPHET

ZACHARIAH PROCLAIMED: "NOT WITH STRENGTH AND NOT WITH ARMED

MIGHT, BUT WITH MY SPIRIT WILL YOU PREVAIL, SAITH THE LORD GOD."

IT IS THIS SPIRIT, FUELED BY EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

WHICH MAKES ISRAEL STRONG TODAY,

THE JEWISH PEOPLE BROUGHT TO THE NEW WORLD THEIR AGE-OLD

STRUGGLE TO BE FREE IT IS HERE IN AMERICA THAT THE MEMORIES

OF TYRANNY HAVE KEPT ALIVE THE VIGILANCE OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

TO THE THREATS AGAINST FREEDOM.

AND IT IS HERE IN AMERICA THAT THE JEWISH CONCEPT OF

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE AS THE CORNERSTONE OF FREEDOM WAS

JOINED WITH THE JEFFERSONIAN AND JACKSONIAN IDEALS OF EQUALITY.

TOGETHER THEY FORM A POTENT FORCE -- A FORCE CAPABLE OF
GUARANTEEING THAT WE REMAIN A FREE, VIBRANT, OPEN SOCIETY IN
WHICH ALL MEN AND WOMEN CAN MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR GOD-GIVEN TALENT.

↳ WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN IN THE CONTEXT OF U.S.-ISRAELI
RELATIONSHIPS? ↳ IT MEANS THERE IS MORE AT STAKE THAN ONLY MILITARY
OR SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS.

↳ THE JEWS OF THE WORLD HAVE MADE INDISPENSABLE CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE HUMANITY, FREEDOM AND CIVILIZATION OF MANKIND. ↳ THESE VALUES
ARE INHERENT IN THE STATE OF ISRAEL. ↳ IF WE ALLOWED ISRAEL TO
GO UNDER, IT WOULD MEAN THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR OWN VALUES AND GOALS
AS A NATION. ↳ FOR IT IS OUR OWN SPIRITUAL AND MORAL TIES TO ISRAEL
WHICH FORM THE UNDERPINNING OF OUR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THAT
COUNTRY.

AGAIN, I DEEPLY APPRECIATE THIS HONOR YOU HAVE BESTOWED UPON

ME TONIGHT,

Shalom!!
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