

**The original documents are located in Box D31, folder “KFAR Silver Hiller Dinner, Houston, TX, June 6, 1971” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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Honoree - Joseph Hiller / Jack Torreygauer - Past Pres. 2.D.A.  
Regional President - Louis Kreditor "great friend of"  
Joe B. Westmoreland R.N.S.

*Hillier*

ADDRESS FOR THE KFAR SILVER HILLER DINNER, 7  
P.M. SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1971, AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

BRANDEIS  
AWARD

George Bush -

Bob Eckhardt

*Yemen + American  
stand for the same*

SHALOM!

I FIND IT MOST NATURAL TO USE THE  
TRADITIONAL HEBREW GREETING, SINCE I HAVE  
SPOKEN BEFORE MANY JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN  
RECENT MONTHS. ALSO, I AM A GREAT BELIEVER  
IN PEACE, AS I AM CERTAIN EACH OF YOU ARE.

I HAVE COME TO YOU TONIGHT TO  
SPEAK OF PEACE--OF WAR AND PEACE--OF THE  
MIDDLE EAST AND THE HEART-RENDING PROBLEMS  
THAT DISTURB US ALL AS WE LOOK AT THAT  
DEEPLY TROUBLED REGION OF THE WORLD.

IT IS ESPECIALLY FITTING THAT WE  
TAKE A FRESH LOOK AT THE MIDDLE EAST TONIGHT,  
FOR ONLY A SHORT TIME AGO SECRETARY OF STATE  
WILLIAM ROGERS MADE TRIPS TO BOTH ISRAEL AND  
EGYPT, AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER EGYPTIAN



PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT SHOOK UP HIS CABINET AND THEN PROMPTLY SIGNED A 15-YEAR TREATY OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS HAVE TRANSPIRED IN RECENT WEEKS. AND IT MAY BE THAT A NEW SCENARIO WILL BE PLAYED OUT IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

WHEN SADAT STAGED HIS CABINET COUP, THE IMMEDIATE REACTION OF MANY OBSERVERS WAS TO LABEL IT A PRO-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT. SADAT'S OUSTER OF THE LEFTISTS AND HIS STUNNING CONSOLIDATION OF POWER DIRECTLY FOLLOWED ROGERS' VISIT. THERE WAS TALK OF AN EASING OF TENSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THERE WAS <sup>hopeful</sup> SPECULATION THAT SADAT'S OUSTER OF PRO-SOVIET EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS COULD LEAD TO PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD AN ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE SETTLEMENT.

THEN SOVIET PRESIDENT PODGORNYY MADE HIS HURRIED TRIP TO CAIRO, AND WHAT WAS THE UPSHOT? A TREATY THAT SOLIDIFIES FOR AT LEAST 15 YEARS THE SOVIET HOLD ON EGYPT. IF THE WORLD NEEDED ANY PROOF OF IT, THE 15-YEAR SOVIET-EGYPTIAN TREATY TELLS US THAT THE SOVIET INVESTMENT IN EGYPT IS PAYING OFF FOR THE RUSSIANS. IT TELLS US THAT EGYPT IS INDEED A CLIENT STATE DEEPLY INDEBTED TO THE SOVIET UNION AND VERY MUCH CONSCIOUS OF THAT DEBT. IT ALSO <sup>clearly</sup> INDICATES THAT ANY MOVE EGYPT MIGHT MAKE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAEL WILL FIRST BE CHECKED OUT IN MOSCOW.

EGYPT HAS CLEARLY MOVED CLOSER TO THE RUSSIAN CAMP, ALMOST IN FACT ASSUMING THE STATUS OF A SATELLITE.

WITH THE SIGNING OF THE 15-YEAR SOVIET-EGYPTIAN TREATY, RUSSIA HAS <sup>finally</sup> ACQUIRED THE STATUS OF A MIDDLE EASTERN POWER. THE SOVIETS HAVE USED ARAB-ISRAELI TENSIONS TO EXPAND INTO THE MIDDLE EAST. ISRAEL NOW BECOMES THE FREE WORLD'S FOREMOST BULWARK AGAINST COMMUNIST CONTROL OF THE MID-EAST.

I HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THAT THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TIED IN WITH THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL. I SAY THIS BECAUSE IT IS IN THE VITAL INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PREVENT SOVIET DOMINATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST. FOR THE SOVIET UNION TO GAIN A DOMINATING POSITION IN THIS AREA THAT HAS SUCH HISTORICAL AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE IS TO ENDANGER <sup>present & future</sup> THE PEACE OF THE WORLD.

*In this CRISIS  
Israel needs a strong America.  
America needs a strong Israel.  
The strength of both contributes to World Peace.*



THE MIDDLE EAST HAS ALWAYS BEEN A POTENTIAL TARGET FOR SOVIET EXPANSION-- AN EXTENSION OF ITS EUROPEAN SPHERE OF INFLUENCE. THE RUSSIANS FAILED IN THEIR FRONTAL ASSAULTS ON TURKEY AND IRAN, SO NOW THEY HAVE LEAPFROGGED THOSE TWO NATIONS TO ACHIEVE THE SOVIET UNION'S LONG-SOUGHT OBJECTIVE OF BECOMING A MIDDLE EAST POWER.

THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION SEES SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS A REGRETTABLE FACT OF LIFE--A DEMONSTRATION OF SOVIET POWER WHICH MUST BE DEALT WITH THERE JUST AS ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD.

WE KNOW THAT THE RUSSIANS ARE EMPLOYING GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. BUT WE ARE MEETING THAT CHALLENGE. THE UNITED STATES JUST RECENTLY ANNOUNCED MEASURES TO REINFORCE ITS NAVAL STRENGTH IN THE MEDITERRANEAN THROUGH THE ALMOST

*will continue*

CONTINUOUS PRESENCE OF A HELICOPTER CARRIER AND A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN HOURS OF MARITIME AIR PATROLLING AND THE SHIP-OPERATING DAYS OF SEA PATROLS.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT WAS JUST CO-  
INCIDENCE THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THESE  
NEW MEASURES CAME JUST 24 HOURS AFTER THE  
SIGNING OF THE 15-YEAR SOVIET-EGYPTIAN  
TREATY.

*We did.*

WE HAD TO ACT. IN MY VIEW, THE  
SOVIET BUILDUP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IS A  
DIRECT THREAT TO THE BALANCE OF POWER NOT  
ONLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST BUT BETWEEN THE  
NATO ALLIANCE AND THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES.

THE SOVIET-EGYPTIAN TREATY ALSO  
THREATENS THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE MID-  
EAST. WHILE IT COULD BE SAID MERELY TO  
RATIFY THE STATUS QUO, THE FACT REMAINS THAT

IT ASSURES EGYPT OF A FREE-FLOWING CONTINUING SUPPLY OF MILITARY AID. AS FOR ISRAEL, THE UNITED STATES MUST GUARANTEE HER AN ASSURED SUPPLY OF JETS AND OTHER MILITARY NEEDS AS A COUNTER TO RUSSIAN EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF EGYPT. THE BEST WAY TO ASSURE ISRAEL OF THIS AID IS A PACKAGE <sup>economic + military</sup> LEND-LEASE ARRANGEMENT, AN ARRANGEMENT THAT WILL MEAN IMMEDIATE <sup>+ reliable</sup> HELP AS IT BECOMES NECESSARY.

THE FACT THAT THE SOVIET-EGYPTIAN TREATY ENSURES A VIRTUALLY PERMANENT SOVIET PRESENCE IN EGYPT DOES NOT, IN MY VIEW, WIPE OUT ALL CHANCES FOR AN ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE SETTLEMENT. HOW MANY TIMES WILL THE RUSSIANS BE WILLING TO GO THROUGH A FIASCO LIKE THE SIX-DAY WAR OF JUNE 1967?

WE SHOULD NOT DESPAIR IN OUR PURSUIT OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE PROBLEMS OF THE HOUR SHOULD SPUR US TO GREATER



EFFORTS.

FOR THE SHORT TERM, THE SITUATION HAS BOTH PLUSES AND MINUSES. WE CAN TAKE HOPE FROM THE FACT THAT THE FIGHTING HAS NOT RESUMED DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF A WRITTEN CEASE-FIRE. TEN MONTHS OF NO ACTIVE WARFARE IS DEFINITELY BENEFICIAL. BECAUSE THE GUNS HAVE BEEN SILENT, I REMAIN THE ETERNAL OPTIMIST. HOWEVER, WE SHOULD WORK CEASELESSLY TO CREATE THE FRAMEWORK FOR DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT.

NATIONS AS WELL AS INDIVIDUALS-- IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ELSEWHERE--SURELY RECOGNIZE THAT PEACE IS ESSENTIAL IF THEY ARE TO MAKE THE EARTH A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE.

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST ARE SPELLED OUT IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION OF NOVEMBER 22, 1967. THE PROBLEM LIES IN DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS OF THAT RESOLUTION: HOW TO CREATE A STATE OF PEACE, HOW TO PRESERVE THE PEACE, AND IN PRACTICAL WAYS, HOW TO GUARANTEE IT.

IN MY VIEW, THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION DID NOT ENVISAGE TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. *has it.* IT EMPHASIZED THE SECURITY ASPECT OF ANY SETTLEMENT THAT MIGHT BE ENTERED INTO. FROM THE VERY BEGINNING THE UNITED STATES ANTICIPATED THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.

YOU ALL KNOW THAT AS A RESULT OF THE UNITED STATES INITIATIVE IN JUNE 1970, ISRAEL, EGYPT AND JORDAN ACCEPTED MEDIATION BY GUNNAR JARRING; EGYPT AND JORDAN ACKNOWLEDGED THE PRINCIPLE OF ENTERING INTO A PEACE WITH ISRAEL; AND ISRAEL ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE OF WITHDRAWAL...

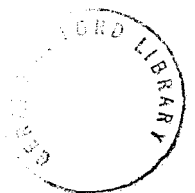
NOT TOTAL WITHDRAWAL, BUT WITHDRAWAL TO SECURE BORDERS.

A LITTLE MORE THAN A YEAR AGO THERE WAS ACTIVE FIGHTING ALONG ALL FRONTS, AND THERE WAS GUERRILLA WARFARE IN JORDAN.

THE SITUATION TODAY IS FAR PREFERABLE. A GENUINE NEGOTIATING PROCESS HAS STARTED. EGYPT HAS ACCEPTED A COMMITMENT TO PEACE WITHOUT INSISTING ON WITHDRAWAL FROM OTHER THAN EGYPTIAN TERRITORY.

BUT, LET THERE BE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, THERE IS ALWAYS THE DANGER THAT EGYPT WILL AGAIN RESORT TO WAR AS A SOLUTION.

WHILE THE UNITED STATES INITIATIVE IN 1970 HALTED A PROGRESSIVE MILITARY DETERIORATION, THE FACT REMAINS THAT THE EGYPTIANS AND SOVIETS VIOLATED THE CEASE-



FIRE AND BUILT UP THE EGYPTIAN ARSENAL OF GROUND-TO-AIR MISSILES TO THE POINT WHERE IT IS THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF SUCH MISSILES IN THE WORLD.

WHILE THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BEND EVERY EFFORT TO BRING THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT TO PEACEFUL RESOLUTION, I WANT TO MAKE MY OWN POSITION UNMISTAKEABLY CLEAR. ISRAEL SHOULD NOT WITHDRAW FROM ONE INCH OF OCCUPIED TERRITORY UNLESS THERE IS CREDIBLE EVIDENCE THAT SUCH ACTION WILL PRODUCE A REAL PEACE TREATY AND THAT THE ARABS WILL NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH HER.

ONE CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF AN INTERIM AGREEMENT TO OPEN THE SUEZ CANAL. EGYPT WANTS THE CANAL OPEN. ISRAEL SEEMS TO BE WILLING. RUSSIA AND THE UNITED STATES WOULD BENEFIT FROM AN OPENING OF THE

CANAL. CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS ARE VERY MUCH IN ORDER.

LET ISRAEL NOW PUT INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS WHAT IT WANTS TO ASSURE SECURITY. THERE MUST BE A WAY TO WORK OUT AN AGREEMENT.

THE CURRENT SEARCH FOR AN INTERIM AGREEMENT COULD BE A STEP TOWARD THE ATTAINMENT OF PEACE. THIS IS AN EXPLORATION IN DIPLOMACY THAT WOULD NOT HURT ISRAEL'S INTERESTS.

CERTAINLY AT THIS POINT IN THE UNITED STATES--ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP, NO AMERICAN STILL ENTERTAINS THE IDEA THAT THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE A PARTY TO ANY ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE A PEACE ON THE PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

AS PRESIDENT NIXON HAS SAID,

PEACE CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY THROUGH THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTING FORCES AT WORK IN EACH PART OF THE WORLD.

THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION WILL DILIGENTLY AND WITH ALL ITS RESOURCES HELP WHERE IT CAN. WE WILL HELP IN PROVIDING SECURITY WHERE IT IS NEEDED, AND WE WILL HELP IN WORKING TOWARD AGREEMENT. BUT WE CAN ONLY HELP.

THE REAL INTERESTS OF ARABS AND ISRAELIS, OF RUSSIANS AND AMERICANS, REQUIRE PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE. THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO PEACEFUL AND HONORABLE DEALINGS WITH ALL MEN. WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN, AS MEN OF CONSCIENCE AND INTEGRITY, TO PROMOTE PEACE.

AND IN ISRAEL, THAT LAND WHERE THE PROPHETS DREAMED THAT NATION SHOULD NOT LIFT UP SWORD AGAINST NATION, LET THERE BE PEACE.



FOR ISRAEL, A NATION OF PEOPLE WHOSE SUFFERING MERITS A LIFE MORE CREATIVE THAN PERPETUAL SERVICE IN AN ARMED CAMP, LET THERE BE PEACE. FOR THE ARABS, WHOSE POVERTY AND FRUSTRATION REQUIRE SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS AND A DECENT LIFE RATHER THAN THE ENDLESS PURCHASE OF JETS AND GUNS, LET THERE BE PEACE.

ISRAEL COULD BE A LIGHT UNTO THE NATIONS OF THAT REGION IF THE ARABS WOULD ACCEPT FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS OF THE JEWISH FAITH AS ENTITLED TO NATIONHOOD AS ANY OTHER PEOPLE. THE GENIUS AND PRODUCTIVITY OF THE ISRAELIS COULD HELP OTHERS MAKE THEIR DESERTS BLOOM.

INSTEAD OF THE CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION BECOMING ITS GRAVE, LET THE CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION GIVE RISE TO TWO PEOPLES,

ARAB AND JEWISH, EACH IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES, WITH COMMERCE AND TRAVEL FLOWING ACROSS PEACEFUL BORDERS, AND WITH A NEW SENSE OF MUTUAL RESPECT IN KEEPING WITH OUR DREAM OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN UNDER THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD.

I WANT TO ADD A SPECIAL AND VERY PERSONAL WORD TO THIS AUDIENCE. MANY OF YOU HAVE DEVOTED YOUR LIVES TO THE ISRAELI CAUSE. YOU HAVE SEEN IN ISRAEL A REDEMPTION OF FREEDOM AND HUMAN DIGNITY, THE REBIRTH OF A PEOPLE. BUT WE ARE NOW WITNESSING PAINFUL DAYS, TRAGIC DAYS, IN WHICH THE POWERS AND PRESSURES OF THE WORLD APPEAR TO BE CONVERGING ON THE MIDDLE EAST.

ISRAEL WAS REBORN IN BLOOD AND FIRE. ISRAEL IS TODAY STRUGGLING IN AN ORDEAL OF BLOOD AND FIRE. BUT THIS TIME IT IS DIFFERENT. THE STATE OF ISRAEL HAS PROVED ITS METTLE. ISRAEL IS A NATION AMONG NATIONS.



AS AMERICANS YOU CAN TAKE PRIDE,  
YOU DEDICATED SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL, IN  
THE NATION YOU HAVE HELPED TO BUILD. BUT  
THE WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL DOES NOT SLEEP.

TRYING DAYS STILL LIE AHEAD.  
AND IN YOUR HEART OF HEARTS YOU CAN DRAW  
FAITH AND SUSTENANCE AND ASSURANCE FROM  
ONE FACT. THIS IS THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA. THIS IS OUR COUNTRY AND WE, JEWS  
AND NON-JEWS, PEOPLES OF ALL PARTS OF  
THIS COUNTRY, THE SILENT AMERICANS AND THE  
ARTICULATE AMERICANS, WILL NOT LET ISRAEL  
DOWN.

--END--





ADDRESS BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICH.

*M Office Copy*  
**HOUSTON, TEX.**

KFAR SILVER HILLER DINNER

7:00 p.m., SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1971

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

Shalom!

I find it most natural to use the traditional Hebrew greeting, since I have spoken before many Jewish organizations in recent months. Also, I am a great believer in peace, as I am certain each of you are.

I have come to you tonight to speak of peace--of war and peace-- of the Middle East and the heart-rending problems that disturb us all as we look at that deeply troubled region of the world.

It is especially fitting that we take a fresh look at the Middle East tonight, for only a short time ago Secretary of State William Rogers made trips to both Israel and Egypt, and shortly thereafter Egyptian President Anwar Sadat shook up his cabinet and then promptly signed a 15-year treaty of cooperation and friendship with the Soviet Union.

Highly significant events have transpired in recent weeks. And it may be that a new scenario will be played out in the months ahead.

When Sadat staged his cabinet coup, the immediate reaction of many observers was to label it a pro-American development. Sadat's ouster of the leftists and his stunning consolidation of power directly followed Rogers' visit. There was talk of an easing of tensions in the Middle East. There was speculation that Sadat's ouster of pro-Soviet Egyptian officials could lead to progress in negotiations toward an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

Then Soviet President Podgorny made his hurried trip to Cairo, and what was the upshot? A treaty that solidifies for at least 15 years the Soviet hold on Egypt. If the world needed any proof of it, the 15-year Soviet-Egyptian treaty tells us that the Soviet investment in Egypt is paying off for the Russians. It tells us that Egypt is indeed a client state deeply indebted to the Soviet Union and very much conscious of that debt. It also indicates that any move Egypt might make toward a settlement with Israel will first be checked out in Moscow.

Egypt has clearly moved closer to the Russian camp, almost in fact assuming the status of a satellite.

With the signing of the 15-year Soviet-Egyptian treaty, Russia has acquired

(more)



the status of a Middle Eastern power. The Soviets have used Arab-Israeli tensions to expand into the Middle East. Israel now becomes the Free World's foremost bulwark against Communist control of the Mideast.

I have repeatedly said that the security of the United States is tied in with the security of Israel. I say this because it is in the vital interests of the United States to prevent Soviet domination of the Middle East. For the Soviet Union to gain a dominating position in this area that has such historical and strategic importance is to endanger the peace of the world.

The Middle East has always been a potential target for Soviet expansion--an extension of its European sphere of influence. The Russians failed in their frontal assaults on Turkey and Iran, so now they have leapfrogged those two nations to achieve the Soviet Union's long-sought objective of becoming a Middle East power.

The Nixon Administration sees Soviet influence in the Middle East as a regrettable fact of life--a demonstration of Soviet power which must be dealt with there just as anywhere else in the world.

We know that the Russians are employing gunboat diplomacy in the Mediterranean. But we are meeting that challenge. The United States just recently announced measures to reinforce its naval strength in the Mediterranean through the almost continuous presence of a helicopter carrier and a substantial increase in hours of maritime air patrolling and the ship-operating days of sea patrols.

I don't believe it was just coincidence that the announcement of these new measures came just 24 hours after signing of the 15-year Soviet-Egyptian treaty.

We had to act. In my view, the Soviet buildup in the Mediterranean is a direct threat to the balance of power not only in the Middle East but between the NATO alliance and the Warsaw Pact countries.

The Soviet-Egyptian treaty also threatens the balance of power in the Mideast. While it could be said merely to ratify the status quo, the fact remains that it assures Egypt of a free-flowing continuing supply of military aid. As for Israel, the United States must guarantee her an assured supply of jets and other military needs as a counter to Russian efforts on behalf of Egypt. The best way to assure Israel of this aid is a package lend-lease arrangement, an arrangement that will mean immediate help as it becomes necessary.

The fact that the Soviet-Egyptian treaty ensures a virtually permanent Soviet presence in Egypt does not, in my view, wipe out all chances for an Arab-Israeli peace settlement. How many times will the Russians be willing to go through a fiasco like the six-day war of June 1967?

(more)



We should not despair in our pursuit of peace in the Middle East. The problems of the hour should spur us to greater efforts.

For the short term, the situation has both pluses and minuses. We can take hope from the fact that the fighting has not resumed despite the absence of a written cease-fire. Ten months of no active warfare is definitely beneficial. Because the guns have been silent, I remain the eternal optimist. However, we should work ceaselessly to create the framework for direct negotiations between the parties to the conflict.

Nations as well as individuals--in the Middle East and elsewhere--surely recognize that peace is essential if they are to make the earth a better place to live.

The essential elements of a peace settlement in the Middle East are spelled out in the United Nations Security Council resolution of November 22, 1967. The problem lies in differing interpretations of that resolution: How to create a state of peace, how to preserve the peace, and in practical ways, how to guarantee it.

In my view, the UN resolution did not envisage total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories. It emphasized the security aspect of any settlement that might be entered into. From the very beginning the United States anticipated that there would have to be security arrangements.

You all know that as a result of the United States initiative in June 1970, Israel, Egypt and Jordan accepted mediation by Gunnar Jarring; Egypt and Jordan acknowledged the principle of entering into a peace with Israel; and Israel accepted the principle of withdrawal...not total withdrawal, but withdrawal to secure borders.

A little more than a year ago there was active fighting along all fronts, and there was guerrilla warfare in Jordan.

The situation today is far preferable. A genuine negotiating process has started. Egypt has accepted a commitment to peace without insisting on withdrawal from other than Egyptian territory.

But, let there be no mistake about it, there is always the danger that Egypt will again resort to war as a solution.

While the U. S. initiative in 1970 halted a progressive military deterioration, the fact remains that the Egyptians and Soviets violated the cease-fire and built up the Egyptian arsenal of ground-to-air missiles to the point where it is the largest concentration of such missiles in the world.

While the United States should bend every effort to bring the Arab-Israeli

(more)



conflict to peaceful resolution, I want to make my own position unmistakably clear. Israel should not withdraw from one inch of occupied territory unless there is credible evidence that such action will produce a real peace treaty and that the Arabs will normalize relations with her.

One cannot rule out the possibility of an interim agreement to open the Suez Canal. Egypt wants the canal open. Israel seems to be willing. Russia and the United States would benefit from an opening of the canal. Continued negotiations are very much in order. Let Israel now put into the negotiations what it wants to assure security. There must be a way to work out an agreement.

The current search for an interim agreement could be a step toward the attainment of peace. This is an exploration in diplomacy that would not hurt Israel's interests.

Certainly at this point in the U.S.-Israel relationship, no American still entertains the idea that the Nixon Administration would be a party to any attempt to impose a peace on the parties in the Middle East.

As President Nixon has said, peace can be achieved only through the resolution of conflicting forces at work in each part of the world.

The Nixon Administration will diligently and with all its resources help where it can. We will help in providing security where it is needed, and we will help in working toward agreement. But we can only help.

The real interests of Arabs and Israelis, of Russians and Americans, require peaceful coexistence. The United States is committed to peaceful and honorable dealings with all men. We are doing everything we can, as men of conscience and integrity, to promote peace.

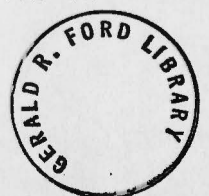
And in Israel, that land where the prophets dreamed that nation should not lift up sword against nation, let there be peace.

For Israel, a nation of people whose suffering merits a life more creative than perpetual service in an armed camp let there be peace. For the Arabs, whose poverty and frustration require schools and hospitals and a decent life rather than the endless purchase of jets and guns, let there be peace.

Israel could be a light unto the nations of that region if the Arabs would accept fellow human beings of the Jewish faith as entitled to nationhood as any other people. The genius and productivity of the Israelis could help others make their deserts bloom.

Instead of the cradle of civilization becoming its grave, let the cradle of

(more)



civilization give rise to two peoples, Arab and Jewish, each in their own countries, with commerce and travel flowing across peaceful borders, and with a new sense of mutual respect in keeping with our dream of the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

I want to add a special and very personal word to this audience. Many of you have devoted your lives to the Israeli cause. You have seen in Israel a redemption of freedom and human dignity, the rebirth of a people. But we are now witnessing painful days, tragic days, in which the powers and pressures of the world appear to be converging on the Middle East.

Israel was reborn in blood and fire, Israel is today struggling in an ordeal of blood and fire. But this time it is different. The State of Israel has proved its mettle. Israel is a nation among the nations.

As Americans you can take pride, you dedicated supporters of Israel, in the nation you have helped to build. But the watchman of Israel does not sleep.

Trying days still lie ahead. And in your heart of hearts you can draw faith and sustenance and assurance from one fact. This is the United States of America. This is our country and we, Jews and non-Jews, peoples of all parts of this country, the silent Americans and the articulate Americans, will not let Israel down.

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We should not despair in our pursuit of peace in the Middle East. The problems of the hour should spur us to greater efforts.

For the short term, the situation has both pluses and minuses. We can take hope from the fact that the fighting has not resumed despite the absence of a written cease-fire. Ten months of no active warfare is definitely beneficial. Because the guns have been silent, I remain the eternal optimist. However, we should work ceaselessly to create the framework for direct negotiations between the parties to the conflict.

Nations as well as individuals--in the Middle East and elsewhere--surely recognize that peace is essential if they are to make the earth a better place to live.

The essential elements of a peace settlement in the Middle East are spelled out in the United Nations Security Council resolution of November 22, 1967. The problem lies in differing interpretations of that resolution: How to create a state of peace, how to preserve the peace, and in practical ways, how to guarantee it.

In my view, the UN resolution did not envisage total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories. It emphasized the security aspect of any settlement that might be entered into. From the very beginning the United States anticipated that there would have to be security arrangements.

You all know that as a result of the United States initiative in June 1970, Israel, Egypt and Jordan accepted mediation by Gunnar Jarring; Egypt and Jordan acknowledged the principle of entering into a peace with Israel; and Israel accepted the principle of withdrawal...not total withdrawal, but withdrawal to secure borders.

A little more than a year ago there was active fighting along all fronts, and there was guerrilla warfare in Jordan.

The situation today is far preferable. A genuine negotiating process has started. Egypt has accepted a commitment to peace without insisting on withdrawal from other than Egyptian territory.

But, let there be no mistake about it, there is always the danger that Egypt will again resort to war as a solution.

While the U. S. initiative in 1970 halted a progressive military deterioration, the fact remains that the Egyptians and Soviets violated the cease-fire and built up the Egyptian arsenal of ground-to-air missiles to the point where it is the largest concentration of such missiles in the world.

While the United States should bend every effort to bring the Arab-Israeli

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conflict to peaceful resolution, I want to make my own position unmistakably clear. Israel should not withdraw from one inch of occupied territory unless there is credible evidence that such action will produce a real peace treaty and that the Arabs will normalize relations with her.

One cannot rule out the possibility of an interim agreement to open the Suez Canal. Egypt wants the canal open. Israel seems to be willing. Russia and the United States would benefit from an opening of the canal. Continued negotiations are very much in order. Let Israel now put into the negotiations what it wants to assure security. There must be a way to work out an agreement.

The current search for an interim agreement could be a step toward the attainment of peace. This is an exploration in diplomacy that would not hurt Israel's interests.

Certainly at this point in the U.S.-Israel relationship, no American still entertains the idea that the Nixon Administration would be a party to any attempt to impose a peace on the parties in the Middle East.

As President Nixon has said, peace can be achieved only through the resolution of conflicting forces at work in each part of the world.

The Nixon Administration will diligently and with all its resources help where it can. We will help in providing security where it is needed, and we will help in working toward agreement. But we can only help.

The real interests of Arabs and Israelis, of Russians and Americans, require peaceful coexistence. The United States is committed to peaceful and honorable dealings with all men. We are doing everything we can, as men of conscience and integrity, to promote peace.

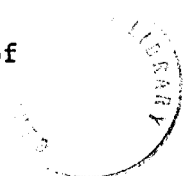
And in Israel, that land where the prophets dreamed that nation should not lift up sword against nation, let there be peace.

For Israel, a nation of people whose suffering merits a life more creative than perpetual service in an armed camp let there be peace. For the Arabs, whose poverty and frustration require schools and hospitals and a decent life rather than the endless purchase of jets and guns, let there be peace.

Israel could be a light unto the nations of that region if the Arabs would accept fellow human beings of the Jewish faith as entitled to nationhood as any other people. The genius and productivity of the Israelis could help others make their deserts bloom.

Instead of the cradle of civilization becoming its grave, let the cradle of

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civilization give rise to two peoples, Arab and Jewish, each in their own countries, with commerce and travel flowing across peaceful borders, and with a new sense of mutual respect in keeping with our dream of the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

I want to add a special and very personal word to this audience. Many of you have devoted your lives to the Israeli cause. You have seen in Israel a redemption of freedom and human dignity, the rebirth of a people. But we are now witnessing painful days, tragic days, in which the powers and pressures of the world appear to be converging on the Middle East.

Israel was reborn in blood and fire, Israel is today struggling in an ordeal of blood and fire. But this time it is different. The State of Israel has proved its mettle. Israel is a nation among the nations.

As Americans you can take pride, you dedicated supporters of Israel, in the nation you have helped to build. But the watchman of Israel does not sleep.

Trying days still lie ahead. And in your heart of hearts you can draw faith and sustenance and assurance from one fact. This is the United States of America. This is our country and we, Jews and non-Jews, peoples of all parts of this country, the silent Americans and the articulate Americans, will not let Israel down.

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ADDRESS BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICH.

KFAR SILVER HILLER DINNER

7:00 p.m., SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1971

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

Shalom!

I find it most natural to use the traditional Hebrew greeting, since I have spoken before many Jewish organizations in recent months. Also, I am a great believer in peace, as I am certain ~~each~~<sup>all</sup> of you are.

I have come to you tonight to speak of peace--of war and peace-- of the Middle East and the heart-rending problems that disturb us all as we look at that deeply troubled region of the world.

It is especially fitting that we take a fresh look at the Middle East tonight, for only a short time ago Secretary of State William Rogers made trips to both Israel and Egypt, and shortly thereafter Egyptian President Anwar Sadat shook up his cabinet and then promptly signed a 15-year treaty of cooperation and friendship with the Soviet Union.

Highly significant events have transpired in recent weeks. And it may be that a new scenario will be played out in the months ahead.

When Sadat staged his cabinet coup, the immediate reaction of many observers was to label it a pro-American development. Sadat's ouster of the leftists and his stunning consolidation of power directly followed Rogers' visit. There was talk of an easing of tensions in the Middle East. There was speculation that Sadat's ouster of pro-Soviet Egyptian officials could lead to progress in negotiations toward an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

Then Soviet President Podgorny made his hurried trip to Cairo, and what was the upshot? A treaty that solidifies for at least 15 years the Soviet hold on Egypt. If the world needed any proof of it, the 15-year Soviet-Egyptian treaty tells us that the Soviet investment in Egypt is paying off for the Russians. It tells us that Egypt is indeed a client state deeply indebted to the Soviet Union and very much conscious of that debt. It also indicates that any move Egypt might make toward a settlement with Israel will first be checked out in Moscow.

Egypt has clearly moved closer to the Russian camp, almost in fact assuming the status of a satellite.

With the signing of the 15-year Soviet-Egyptian treaty, Russia has acquired

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