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THE VICE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sunday, December 15, 1985

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EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY
VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
HANUKKAH CONVOCATION OF YESHIVA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1985

It is a honor to be here tonight and to receive a degree from this, the oldest yeshiva in America.

For nearly a century this school has been dedicated to the study of Jewish culture and faith and since 1945 has included in its curriculum the study of the modern arts and sciences.

In a fundamental way, then, Yeshiva University promotes the fusing of the sacred and the secular -- of values and skills -- in the lives of its students. And I believe that clarity about values... and about traditions, such as students develop here, is essential to the survival and success of democracy.

It is a particular honor and pleasure to be invited to address this Hanukkah convocation.

Recently I asked a friend to comment on the meaning of Hanukkah. He showed me a quote that I'd like to read to you: "The existence of ethical monotheism, i.e. religion itself, was at stake in the struggle between Jews and Syrians that culminated in the first Hanukkah."

Hanukkah, he told me, is a festival of freedom. It recalls a time of challenges and celebrates the victory over those challenges of the traditions and values that are at the heart of Judaism... and of western civilization... and, yes, of American life.

Tonight I wish to discuss those values, those traditions... and to discuss modern challenges to them... in particular the challenges of terrorism and of anti-Semitism.

I got my first exposure to terrorism as an issue in international politics in the early 70s. I was Ambassador to the United Nations.

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The U.N. had several debates on terrorism in that time. And each one quickly took what became a familiar turn. As Mary Martin used to say in "Peter Pan", "First star on the left, straight on 'til morning..." -- we always seemed to end up in Never Never Land.

"One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter": that was the phrase that came to sum up the impasse at which, in those days, the United Nations regularly arrived.

Well, in this respect in the last year things have begun to change... and change for the better. In just the last few weeks the U.N. General Assembly -- in a resolution that the U.S. co-sponsored and strongly supported -- passed its first unequivocal condemnation of terrorism. And tomorrow the Security Council will begin consideration of a resolution against hostage-taking.

But here is why I mention this piece of history. If we're to put an end to terrorism, I believe that we must first be clear in our own minds that one man's terrorist is not another man's freedom fighter.

That formula makes terrorism sound like something that's neither right nor wrong... a phenomenon, not an evil.

But terrorism is evil.

What else but evil can we call the beating and murder on TWA Flight 847 of young Navy Petty Officer Robert Stethem or the machine gunning of six young Marines in El Salvador?

What else but evil can we call the murder on the Achille Lauro of Leon Klinghoffer -- who was confined to a wheelchair, victim of a stroke?

A few weeks ago, maybe you heard, a top aide to Yasser Arafat made an obscene remark about the Klinghoffer murder. He said that no one had ever proven that the hijackers had killed Klinghoffer and that Mrs. Klinghoffer might have done it... for insurance money.

What else but evil can we call this rising tide of terrorism? There were more than 500 incidents around the world in 1983, 600 in 1984 and more than 700 this year.

We must call terrorism what it is... evil in methods... and evil in goals.

A look at the targets of terrorism tells us what its goals are. Terrorists launch few attacks against communist countries or dictatorships. 35 percent of all terrorist attacks are

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directed at Americans. Many of the rest are directed at Israelis and Western Europeans or against citizens of democracies in Central America.

We should look at the states that have sponsored terrorism, too... Iran, Libya, Syria, Nicaragua, North Korea, South Yemen, Cuba and, yes, the Soviet Union in its aggression against the Afghan people.

We must be clear about this -- the goal of the terrorism we see in the world today is to undermine western democratic society... to undermine the institutions, values and traditions that are at the foundation of our civilization.

In a very real sense, it threatens the values and traditions that we celebrate at this time of year... just as, more than two thousand years ago, destroying those values and traditions was the goal of the Syrian tyranny over the Maccabees.

So the question that we must ask ourselves is this, "How can we meet this challenge?"

Now, in case you were wondering, I wouldn't lead you all this way to a question like that without having some answers... not all the answers, but some.

After the TWA hijacking, President Reagan asked me to head a task force to examine what we could do to meet the terrorist threat.

And, with the task force soon to deliver its report, I've come to believe that much of what we must do is just plain common sense.

It's common sense, for example, that we need good intelligence... good information on the plans and methods of terrorists and their supporters.

In the mid-70s I was Director of Central Intelligence. I know how such information can thwart terrorists.

Good intelligence is why the U.S. was able in the past year to uncover 90 planned attacks against American citizens and facilities overseas... and to stop them.

Some were missed... too many. But, as our intelligence gets better, we will miss fewer.

Good intelligence is common sense. So is more international cooperation.

You may remember that when the TWA hostages were released, I flew to Frankfurt in West Germany to welcome our people back. I was already in Europe, conferring with our allies on, among other topics, terrorism. Since then, meetings among our nations have been held to work out the details of common action.

We already work closely with many of our friends in such areas as training of anti-terrorist forces and intelligence sharing.

Another bit of common sense is that our laws at home should be equal to the terrorist challenge. We need to extend the reach of U.S. law to those who would kidnap or murder U.S. citizens overseas, and legislation is before Congress right now that would do just that.

And there's one last piece of common sense... more important than good intelligence, good cooperation or good laws. And that's that in fighting terrorism we must have good leadership... good leadership with the courage to act.

The United States has that kind of leadership in President Reagan. This last year we have acted as never before -- in seeking extradition of the Achille Lauro hijackers from Italy... and of the TWA hijackers from Lebanon... and putting a price on the head of the PLO leader of the Achille Lauro hijacking.

And, of course, in October U.S. Navy planes forced out of the air a jet carrying the murderers of Leon Klinghoffer.

When I heard about that I was on the South Pacific island of Saipan on my way to China. I remember how proud it made me. I'm proud to serve with a President who has the courage to act.

So this is some of what we need in order to meet the terrorist challenge -- good intelligence, good cooperation, good laws and good leadership. As I said, it's just good common sense.

It's common sense, as well, that in diplomacy any government or organization that embraces terrorism should be treated as an outcast.

First among these is the PLO. The PLO has an appalling record of sponsoring terrorism against innocent civilians. They boasted about murdering the Israeli athletes in Munich. They boasted about killing school children in Israel.

PLO leaders now say they want to be included in peace negotiations with Israel and the United States. Well, let me repeat a pledge that both the President and I have made before

and Secretary Shultz repeated earlier this week in London: until the PLO explicitly accepts Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, renounces what it calls "armed struggle" and recognizes Israel's right to exist, the United States will neither recognize nor negotiate with the PLO.

In this Hanukkah season, terrorism is not the only challenge to our values around the world. Another is anti-Semitism.

I am particularly concerned about the plight of Soviet Jewry. I was the first American to meet with each of the past three Soviet leaders. In each of those meetings, I told them how strongly we feel about this.

In Geneva, last month, the President himself told General Secretary Gorbachev how strongly he feels about this.

We have had an improvement in relations with the Soviets in the last few months. The Soviet leaders signaled their desire for better relations by letting Yelena Bonner come to the West for medical attention. They know there would be no better signal for continuing improvements than to let Nudel, Shcharansky and Begun go. Let the rufuseniks go.

The Soviet Union has joined other nations in using the United Nations as a forum for anti-Semitism. The "Zionism is racism" resolutions are just the most disgusting pronouncements in a long series of obscene invective.

The Soviets' Arab allies would like to expel Israel from the world body. So let me repeat a pledge that the President and I have made and that is now law: If Israel is ever voted out of the U.N., the U.S. will go out with it.

Racism is a threat to our values and traditions wherever it appears -- whether as anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union or apartheid in South Africa or discrimination in the United States.

That's why we have taken seriously the threat posed by neo-Nazi groups in this country... groups such as The Order.

It is also why I am personally disturbed by the refusal of some politicians to speak out against Louis Farrakhan, the best peddler of anti-Semitism.

Anti-Semitism is a disgusting disease whenever it appears in this country. It defiles our most sacred traditions, values and institutions.

This is not a partisan issue -- Republican or Democrat -- and it's not black or white, Asian or Hispanic. It's a question of standing up for American values.

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No one who has ever run for public office should have to think twice about that. America has no room for hate-mongers.

I have spoken this evening about two challenges to our American values and traditions -- the challenges of terrorism and of anti-Semitism.

But let me turn now from things that our values and traditions tell us that we must oppose, to those that they tell us we must support.

I believe that the United States has a moral obligation and a strategic interest in supporting the forces of freedom and democracy around the world.

This is the foundation of our strong interest in the movement towards democracy in this hemisphere. For forty years this has been the foundation of our relationship with Western Europe. And this is the foundation of our relationship with Israel.

Israel -- because of our shared values -- is our foremost strategic friend in the Middle East.

We have signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Israel.

As a result, the United States and Israel now engage in regular, detailed discussions about how to cooperate to defend shared interests. Joint military exercises have been held and prepositioning of equipment is under discussion.

We are helping to fund development of the LAVI fighter and are sharing critical technologies for use in the fighter. We're purchasing Israeli-made weapons, and the U.S. and Israel are negotiating to build jointly missiles, submarines and reconnaissance drones. We have invited Israel to participate in strategic defense research, and Israel has accepted.

Our Navy is leasing and maintaining Kfir fighters, for use in training. The Kfir resembles the MIG 23 more closely than any plane we have.

Our Navy also now has a shore leave agreement with Israel. Haifa is one of the few friendly ports left in that area of the world.

We are committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative edge in armaments over any possible combination of adversaries.

We have also taken a strong interest in the health of the Israeli economy -- signing a free trade agreement, converting aid from loans to grants that in this fiscal year will total more than \$3 billion. And there is a special appropriation of \$1.5 billion to assist economic transition.

We believe that in the Middle East it is in everyone's best interest to find a road to lasting peace in the Middle East. In recent months King Hussein has made a courageous move towards breaking the deadlock in relations between Jordan and Israel. Prime Minister Peres has responded with courage and creativity.

We cannot know now what results these initiatives will produce. There have been so many hopes and so many disappointments over the years. But let me say, as the President and I have said before, that the United States will try to facilitate negotiations, but we will never attempt to impose a settlement.

So our values and traditions lead us to a close friendship with Israel -- just as, to take a completely different issue, they have led our country to give massive aid to the starving in Africa, just as they have led Israel to take in the Jews of Ethiopia.

I've heard criticism of the American Jewish community for its vocal support of Israel and of other issues its members believe in. I don't go along with that. I, for one, am deeply disturbed when I hear people in public life speak of American Jews as though they are some sort of monolithic force with improper influence on U.S. policy... or worse yet, when someone takes the allegedly traitorous conduct of a single individual -- such as Jonathan Pollard, the man accused of accepting money to steal documents given to the Israeli government -- and tries to make generalizations about "divided loyalties."

That kind of stereotyping, those innuendos and whispered statements are a small step from overt anti-Semitism, from the polemics of hate spread by a Louis Farrakhan or the Ku Klux Klan. It is anathema to our free democratic traditions that hold sacred the right of individuals to express their views, to organize themselves, to petition government.

Citizen advocacy strengthens our country. It gives America vitality. It's part of why America is so great.

Let no one tell you that the causes you advocate represent "special interest politics." You have a right and duty as Americans to stand for the causes and values that are important to you.

All Americans have that right and duty.

On an island in New York harbor stands a great lady. Millions of new Americans have thrilled to see her lift her lamp beside the golden door.

Few of those new Americans could see what was ahead for them in the new world. For some it was hardship. For some not.

But all found that... if they were true to their families and their faith... their children would grow up to know a better life than they had known. And they found that in this country -- whether you were wealthy or poor, whether you had found the better life or not -- you could stand up for the things you believed.

I feel very strongly about the values and traditions, the opportunities and freedom of our country. Some of it has to do with that South Pacific island I mentioned earlier -- Saipan.

When I was there a couple of months ago, I stood in a small park next to the blue sea and layed a wreath on a memorial to Americans who had fallen in battle there.

The last time I saw Saipan was as a Navy pilot in World War II, giving air support to the Marine landing. The sea wasn't blue then. It was red. You see, many of our boats got snagged on the coral reef off-shore, and enemy artillery began picking them off. In the end we took the island, but I'll never forget those days.

And something else I'll never forget... that the men who died on the reef were fighting for the same dreams, the same values, the same traditions that brought those millions past the Statue of Liberty to a new land and a new life.

I guess you could say that, in those years, somewhere out on the Pacific, defending those values and traditions became part of me... and some way or other that's shaped much of my life ever since.

In this season of Hanukkah -- this festival of freedom and light -- I would only say that we might all reflect on the privilege of living in this wonderful country... and on the duty we all share to ensure that the values and traditions celebrated in this season are preserved in this land for our children and their children and generations to come.

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Vice President Bush: Advocating Jewish causes isn't 'special interest politics'

By WALTER RUBY

With the memory of President Reagan's Bitburg trip still fresh in the mind of the American Jewish community, Vice President George Bush came to a Manhattan synagogue to bring the message that the Administration is still friendly to Jewish aspirations.

In a speech delivered during an academic convocation for Bar-Ilan University held at the Park Avenue East Synagogue at which he was awarded an honorary law degree, Bush told the audience that he rejects criticism of the Jewish community: "for its vocalness on issues it believes in."

According to Bush, "I believe that citizen advocacy is the greatness of America... Let no one tell you that support for Israel and efforts on behalf of Soviet Jews is 'special interest politics.' It is your right and duty as Americans to advocate causes important to you."

While making no reference to the President's controversial visit to the West German military cemetery at

Bitburg which contains the graves of 49 Waffen SS soldiers, Bush referred repeatedly to the Holocaust and pledged, "We Americans must never forget those who suffered and died in the Holocaust. We must remember so that if something like Nazism should return to the earth, we recognize what is happening and we act. That is why the Administration hasn't taken lightly the threat of neo-Nazi groups in this country."

In an apparent allusion to his own involvement in the recent U.S. airlift which brought Ethiopian Jews from Sudan to Israel, Bush commented, "There are still many Jews who have not known deliverance, who are still suffering. And wherever, on whatever continent there is such suffering—whether suffering of the body or more subtle forms—I am committed, as this Administration is committed, to helping. Never again will the cries of abandoned Jews go unheard by the United States government."

Strategic Friendship with Israel
Bush expressed strong support for

the "strategic friendship" which he said had developed between Israel and the U.S. under the Reagan Administration. On the subject of the recent Hussein peace initiative, Bush pledged that the U.S. will never deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) until it recognizes Israel's right to exist and also that "the United States will try to facilitate negotiations, but we will never attempt to impose a settlement."

While stressing that the United States, like Israel, has "real problems" with the idea of an international Middle East peace conference as proposed by Jordan's King Hussein, he added, "We recognize the value of proceeding to direct negotiations within a supportive international context, and we will find one we, Israel, and Jordan can support."

Despite this statement and a comment that "we remain committed to the President's peace initiative," reaction to the Vice President's speech by the audience of about 300 appeared overwhelmingly favorable.



Vice President George Bush (center) with Dr. Emanuel Rackman, president of Bar-Ilan University (left), and attorney Herbert Tenzer, at the academic convocation in New York at which Bush and Tenzer received honorary degrees.

According to Eli Zborowski, chairman of the American Society for Yad Vashem, "I was very impressed with the depth of Bush's speech. I am sure he would not have made so many remarks about the Holocaust if Bitburg had not happened. Still, I as a survivor take it to

heart, especially after Bitburg, that someone like George Bush remembers the lessons of the Holocaust."

Asked if he was disturbed about Bush's qualified support for the Hussein initiative, Zborowski commented, "No, not particularly. I felt

continued on page 35

Bush

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that overall the speech showed a very friendly attitude toward Israel. To me, the best response to the Holocaust is a strong Israel, and if someone can remember that connection 40 years after the Holocaust, that is good."

Asked if Bush was using the speech to build bridges to the Jewish community in preparation for the 1988 election, Zborowski replied, "Absolutely, no question. But that is to be expected in politics. I don't care what the vehicle is, as long as we get mileage from it."

Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman of Congregation Beth Shalom in Lawrence stated, "I thought the speech was very good and reassuring from the Jewish point of view. The remarks he made about the Holocaust seemed designed to take the edge off Bitburg. His remarks about Israel were very good."

Concerned About Pressure

Rabbi Haskell Lookstein of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun was more skeptical. "I thought Bush gave a strong speech, and I was pleased with what he said. The question is, however, not what Bush says but what the Administration does," said Lookstein. "I am concerned about the pressure that seems about to be brought by the Administration to sit down with Palestinians clearly identified with the Palestine National Council, which is in effect the PLO, and I am very concerned about reports that the Administration is planning to sell arms to Jordan."

In his speech, Bush reviewed the steps that the Reagan Administration has taken to strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship, including joint military exercises, U.S. funding for development of the Lavi fighter, the recent invitation to Israel to participate in research related to the Strategic Defense Initiative.

Bush stated, "President Reagan and I are committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative edge over any potential combination of adversaries."

Bush also cited steps that the Administration has taken to help the ailing Israeli economy, including increasing U.S. aid to Israel from \$1 billion to \$2 billion, passing the free trade

agreement, and the creation of the U.S.-Israel Joint Economic Development Group.

Plight of Soviet Jewry

Bush said, "I am particularly concerned about the plight of Soviet Jewry—about (Anatoly) Shcharansky, (Ida) Nudel, now (Yuri) Edelshtein and so many others." Noting that he had raised the issue of Soviet Jewry in his meetings in Moscow with Soviet leaders Yuri Andropov, Konstantin Chernenko, and in his recent meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev, Bush remarked, "If the Soviet leaders want to signal a sincere desire for improved relations, they know where to start—let the refuseniks go."

In an apparent attempt to strengthen Jewish support for the Administration's Central America policy, Bush stated, "Our heritage as Americans requires that we remember those who suffer anti-Semitism today—whether in Africa, the Soviet Union or Nicaragua." (There are less than ten Jews in Nicaragua today, and recent Jewish visitors to Nicaragua have found no evidence of official anti-Semitism.)

He added, "Our heritage as Americans requires that we remember the obligation of great democracies, like the United States, to support small ones, like Israel."

Preceding Bush's remarks, Dr. Emanuel Rackman, president of Bar-Ilan University, presented honorary degrees to Bush, Cleveland philanthropist Irving Stone, and former Congressman Herbert Tenzer. Convocation chairman at the event was George Klein, a New York builder who is a leader of the Republican Jewish Coalition. □

(V.P.)

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY
VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
TO THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONVOCATION OF
BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1985

It's a pleasure and honor to be here.

Today we observe the 30th anniversary of Bar-Ilan University. One of the world's great universities, Bar-Ilan is testimony to the dedication of Israel, of the Israeli people and of you -- Bar-Ilan's supporters in America -- to education. Israel has one of the finest education systems in the world. Bar-Ilan is one of the finest institutions in Israel.

But to me, Bar-Ilan is more than a university. It is a statement of faith.

Faith in the importance of the sacred in a secular world, of tradition in a world of innovation. I'm impressed that Bar-Ilan's students master both the most modern, secular arts and sciences and their enduring Jewish heritage.

Faith in the enduring bond between Israel and the United States. Many of Bar-Ilan's secular schools -- for example, its business and law schools -- are patterned after American models.

And Bar-Ilan is the only Israeli university chartered by the New York State Board of Regents.

And, finally, faith in life and in the capacity of man to repair a broken world. Born only ten years after the end of the Holocaust, Bar-Ilan stands, with Israel itself, as testimony to the ultimate triumph of freedom over oppression, life over death, good over evil.

And, let me add, no man better embodies the spirit of Bar-Ilan than Dr. Emanuel Rackman, whose 75th birthday we also celebrate today. In mastery of both secular and sacred traditions, in embodiment of the bond between America and Israel, in building for the future good of man -- Dr. Rackman is the spirit of Bar-Ilan today, and I know that everyone here admires and respects him as much as I do.

Tonight I want to talk, in a broader context, about each of the articles of faiths that Bar-Ilan represents -- about faith in values, in the bond between Israel and America and in man's ability to improve the world.

Forty years ago the world was in desperate need of improvement. The most destructive of history's wars had just ended.

I fought in that war, in the Pacific. I saw terrible things. But it wasn't until I got home, and talked with friends who'd fought in Europe and helped liberate some of the concentration camps, that I realized that as horrible as combat was, there was something yet more horrible still.

World War II was a struggle of good against evil -- evil of a sort the world had never before seen.

Yes, the world had known aggression. It had known brutality.

But never before had there been an ideology that -- like the Nazi ideology -- was dedicated to the destruction of entire peoples because of their religion or their race.

Never before had there been death camps and gas chambers that claimed lives by the millions.

Never before had mankind known the horror the Jews of Europe knew during the Holocaust.

Never before... and when allied troops liberated the concentration camps, decent people everywhere vowed never again.

This vow -- never again -- was the genesis of the American bond with Israel. It sustained and nurtured that bond, until over the years, the relationship became broader and more mutual.

It is not just that millions of American families now claim sons, daughters, brothers, sisters or even parents in Israel and feel deep affection and admiration for that nation -- although that's important.

No, it's also that America and Israel share common values. We are both democracies dedicated to common concepts of freedom and justice.

Over the years common values have made our common bond stronger -- and so has common need. Israel and America share broad strategic concerns. As the area's one true democracy, Israel is America's foremost strategic friend in the Middle East.

This aspect of the relationship -- strategic friendship -- has come to full maturity only in the last few years.

In 1983, President Reagan and then-Prime Minister Shamir recognized it when they announced a strategic cooperation agreement between the U.S. and Israel.

As a result of that agreement, the United States and Israel now engage in regular, detailed discussions regarding how to cooperate to defend shared interests. Joint military exercises have been held and prepositioning of equipment is under discussion.

We are helping to fund the development of the LAVI fighter and are sharing critical technologies for use in the fighter. We're purchasing Israeli made weapons. We've announced that Israel and the U.S. will together build missiles, submarines and reconnaissance drones. And we have invited Israel to participate in research related to the Strategic Defense Initiative.

President Reagan and I are committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative edge over any potential combination of adversaries.

We've also taken a strong interest in helping Israel improve its economy.

Last year we changed the military aid package from loans to grants. Economic and military aid in 1984 totaled \$2.6 billion and this year may be more.

This year we signed a U.S.-Israeli free trade agreement. It's good for both American and Israeli business to have full

access to each other's markets, and we believe it will help strengthen both the U.S. and Israeli economies.

And we've established a Joint Economic Development Group, which includes several of our nation's most distinguished economists to help improve Israel's economy.

All this is why just a few months ago Mr. Shamir said Israeli "relations with the U.S. are better than ever before," and Mr. Peres echoed that judgment, saying they "have reached a new level of harmony and understanding." That's what strategic cooperation has meant for U.S.-Israeli relations -- a strong friendship based on common values and shared interests.

Ultimately, the President and I would like -- as Israel would like -- to see the day when Israel and its neighbors live at peace. We remain committed to the President's peace initiative.

Last week, Jordan's King Hussein visited Washington to discuss his thoughts on this search for peace. With the developments in the last few months between Egypt and Israel and Egypt and Jordan, we may have an opportunity now to take strides towards peace.

But there has been a great deal of anxious speculation about what was said and not said in the meetings with the King. So let

me repeat here pledges that have been and remain the foundation of our policy on negotiations.

First pledge: Regarding the PLO, until the PLO explicitly accepts Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognizes Israel's right to exist, the United States will neither recognize nor negotiate with the PLO.

Second pledge: The United States will try to facilitate negotiations, but we will never attempt to impose a settlement.

We have -- as Israel has -- real problems with the concept of an international conference. We believe that negotiations must be between the parties themselves. But we recognize the value of proceeding to direct negotiations within a supportive international context, and we will work with Israel to find one we, Israel and Jordan can support.

And while we're on pledges and international conferences, let me repeat one last pledge, now law, about the most prominent international conference, the U.N. itself. And that's, very simply, if Israel is ever voted out of the U.N., the U.S. will go out with it.

The Talmud teaches that, "It was only through suffering that the children of Israel obtained three priceless and coveted gifts: The Torah, the Land of Israel, and the World to Come."

But though the death and suffering of the Holocaust led to the birth of Israel, there are still many Jews who have not known deliverance, who still suffer. And wherever, on whatever continent, there is such suffering -- whether suffering of the body or more subtle forms -- I am committed, as this Administration is committed, to helping. Never again will the cries of abandoned Jews go unheard by the United States government.

I am particularly concerned about the plight of Soviet Jewry -- about Scharansky, Widel, now Edelstein and so many others. I was the first American to meet with each of the past three Soviet leaders. And in each of those meetings, I told them how strongly we feel on this. If the Soviet leaders want to signal a sincere desire for improved relations, they know where to start -- let the ~~ref~~useniks go.

If the United States should last a million years or a million million years, this country will still remain the enemy of anti-Semitism, of Nazism, of all such oppression. It is our obligation as a free people.

of Soviet Jews is "special interest politics." It is your right and duty as Americans to advocate causes important to you.

Our heritage as Americans requires that we remember the Holocaust.

Our heritage as Americans requires that we remember those who suffer anti-Semitism today -- whether in Africa, the Soviet Union or Nicaragua.

Our heritage as Americans requires that we remember those in our time who face genocidal threats -- whether they are Cambodian, Afghan or Miskito Indians.

Our heritage as Americans requires that we remember the obligation of great democracies, like the United States, to support small ones, like Israel.

But all I am saying is that our heritage as Americans requires that we remember our values, our faiths, our traditions and let them guide us in making our nation and our world a better place.

We Americans must never forget those who suffered and died in the Holocaust. We must remember so that if something like Nazism should return to the earth, we recognize what is happening and we act. That's why the Administration hasn't taken lightly the threat of neo-Nazi groups in this country.

We Americans have a responsibility to those who died in the Holocaust. Part of that responsibility in our time is to capture the killers who survive. In the last four years the U.S. has initiated legal action against 400 of these, and we are hunting others. Josef Mengele is at the top of the list. Time cannot redeem such monsters or reconcile us to their deeds.

Another part of that responsibility is to resolve our problems with the genocide treaty... and to ratify it.

We Americans have a responsibility to the victims of the Holocaust, and Americans related by blood or faith have, perhaps, a special responsibility.

I've heard some people criticize the Jewish community for its vocalness on issues it believes in. Well, I don't go along with that. I believe that citizen advocacy is the greatness of America. It's what strengthens and gives vitality to our country. Let no one tell you that support for Israel and efforts on behalf

THE VICE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

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EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY
VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
BEFORE AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ANNUAL POLICY CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1984

In February America lost a patriot -- your president, Mort Silberman. Mort Silberman once said:

"There is neither vision nor strength in isolationism. Rather our interests as a nation are served when America asserts its values in international affairs. And in this process U.S.-Israel relations are enhanced."

This wisdom is my theme for this morning.

A fundamental change has come over the conduct of American foreign policy in the last four years.

A new mood of assuredness today characterizes America's entire posture abroad and our friendship with the State of Israel.

How can we forget -- it would be wrong to forget the condition of American foreign policy four years ago:

-- In the U.N. votes were cast, then disavowed.

-- In the Middle East, we saw paralysis in the face of a crisis in Iran that led to the replacement of a friendly Shah with a militantly hostile Ayatollah, unbelievable paralysis during a hostage crisis just a few months later, and our economic policies at home only increased our reliance on oil from that volatile region.

-- In Europe, allies took great political risks to accept deployment of the neutron bomb only to see the system cancelled without consultation in the face of a massive Soviet propaganda campaign.

-- In relations with the Soviet Union, hard lines turned to soft lines and back to hard lines, it seemed sometimes, overnight.

Today things are different.

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-- The Atlantic Alliance is the strongest it has been in decades. It has just weathered a new storm of Soviet propaganda and successfully begun deployment of new intermediate range nuclear forces. These forces will protect the West against the Soviet SS-20 threat and strengthen our position in arms negotiations, as well.

-- The industrial world's dependence on Middle East oil is substantially diminished.

-- The Soviet Union is coming to appreciate that we are serious and steady and that we understand our own interests and those of our allies and acknowledge those of the Soviets.

-- And no one today doubts that Israel and the United States stand together.

What's different?

Some say it's strength. We're stronger today -- economically, militarily -- than we have been in years.

Some say it's people. Ronald Reagan heads the government. He is a strong, principled leader.

But men and women in public life are in many ways merely the embodiment of values and traditions, and strength is merely their instrument. I believe that the new American assuredness flows fundamentally from a new commitment to America's traditions.

It's very simple: Ronald Reagan and I believe that the western democratic tradition is fundamentally right for all mankind. And we aren't sheepish about saying it. President Reagan did, in fact, proclaim it as a matter of American policy in his June 1982 address to the British Parliament.

Freedom, justice and democracy: promoting these, we believe, is in the fundamental interest of the United States. And if you believe that you must believe it an absolute moral imperative to help strengthen and protect the State of Israel.

So unflinching commitment to democratic values and traditions -- this is the source of the new mood of assuredness in American foreign policy.

And one place you can see this new assuredness is in U.S.-Israeli relations. In the U.N., gone are the days in which our delegation didn't know whether it should vote for or against resolutions condemning Israel. Our delegation knows that this President and this Administration regard as obscene the anti-Semitism that has become so common in U.N. debate.

We will not shrug such talk off as mere rhetoric. And our

ambassador, Jeane Kirkpatrick, will not let stand unchallenged equations of Zionism with racism.

And there's something else we won't let stand unchallenged. Ambassador Kirkpatrick has said it. The President has said it. I'm saying it to you: if Israel is ever voted out of the U.N., the United States will go out with it.

So there's new assuredness in our support for Israel at the U.N.

And there's new assuredness in other areas of our relationship, as well.

In the past year, the United States and Israel announced a new, formal relationship of strategic cooperation. Strategic cooperation means that the Israeli and the American governments now engage in regular, detailed discussions about the Soviet threat in the Middle East and how to cooperate to counter it. We recognize that it is imperative that our military services undertake cooperative planning, exercises, prepositioning of equipment and weapons research and development.

For the first time now, the U.S. and Israel have begun to consider these joint actions.' For the first time the United States has acknowledged what Israel always has been -- our foremost strategic friend in the Middle East. And this, in turn, confirms America's longstanding commitment to ensure Israel's qualitative edge in armaments over any potential combination of adversaries.

This new mood of assuredness in U.S.-Israeli relations means more, however, than simply strengthening our military ties. It means, as well, an American commitment to bolster the Israeli economy. Israel is facing extremely difficult economic problems but knows that the United States cannot relieve it of the responsibility of confronting these problems. Still, there are ways we can help.

Let me give you some examples. After extensive talks, the United States has restructured its 1985 aid package to Israel. Military assistance that Israel once received on a loan basis will for now go by way of grants. For this coming year we have proposed that Israel receive economic aid totalling \$850 million and military grants totalling \$1.4 billion -- for a total aid package of \$2.25 billion.

These military grants will ensure that Israel maintains its qualitative edge on the battlefield, an edge that enhances, of course, the value to us of strategic cooperation. But they will also ensure that maintaining that edge doesn't bankrupt Israel's economy. Under this Administration, part of America's commitment to Israel is a guarantee that differences in financial strength between Israel and its adversaries do not translate into differences in military strength.

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America is also committed to assisting in the development of Israeli economic self-sufficiency. The most important step we are exploring right now is the establishment of an Israeli-American free trade relationship. Of course, a free trade area is good for both America and Israel.

For Israel, a free trade zone would mean unimpeded access to the world's largest market. It would remove from Israeli exports the cap on duty-free access to the U.S. that the General System of Preferences legislation now imposes. It would help maintain and improve markets here for Israeli products.

For the United States, a free trade area would ensure that Americans will compete on an equal footing with Europeans in the Israeli market. The E.C. and Israel already have an agreement to reduce tariffs on industrial goods, while more than 50% of U.S. imports to Israel are subject to some form of duty.

So this is what America's new mood of assuredness has meant most directly to Israel: the confidence to acknowledge Israel as a strategic ally; the confidence to stand unflinchingly by Israel at the U.N.; the confidence to strengthen our military and financial assistance to Israel; the confidence to give unprecedented attention to strengthening the Israeli economy. More, perhaps, than any other country, Israel has benefitted directly from the new confidence, the new mood of assuredness that has come to American foreign policy in the last four years.

And let me pause here to say that we -- all of us -- should realize that this assuredness does not come free. We have had to spend increased money on our defense to redress ten years of neglect. You know it -- I know it: it is in Israel's interest to see America economically and militarily strong. And yet some, who loudly profess to be Israel's strongest friends, are leading the charge to weaken the defense budget in this country.

But for Israel, this new U.S. assuredness has meant something even broader. At a time of unusual turmoil in the region when Israel cannot afford vacillation by its most important friend, the new mood of American assuredness has meant a firm, decisive, unified American policy towards the entire Middle East.

In the Middle East today Islamic extremism is on the rise. One country, Iran, once on good terms with Israel and the U.S., has fallen to fanatics. And Iran is in a war with the announced objective of overthrowing the government of Iraq, which is the neighbor of Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Should Iran triumph, the resultant threat to the Gulf states and the entire region could be of a magnitude never known in the region. Like all fanaticism the variety being exported by Iran is a clear threat to all.

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And that is not the only such danger. Syria is also bent on dominating the region. And in the shadows, sending weapons and supplies to both Iran and Syria and even to Iraq, is the Soviet Union.

The United States is acting in three areas to protect its interests in this time of Middle Eastern turmoil. And these are in Israel's interests, too.

First, of course, is that we have substantially reduced the entire region's power over the industrial world's economy. We brought down oil consumption in the U.S. and increased domestic supply. The way we did it was simple: we accelerated decontrol of oil prices, cut taxes on producers and stopped financing price increases with inflation. And you know the result. The world economy today -- vulnerable as it is -- is far less vulnerable to disruption of the Middle Eastern oil flow than it was four years ago. And that means that Israel's security is less vulnerable. The U.S. today depends on the Gulf states for only 3 percent of its requirements, although, of course, Japan and NATO are considerably more dependent.

Second, we are determined that Saudi Arabia and Jordan must not be left to the mercy of the radical states in the region. And the same is true for Bahrain, Oman and other Gulf states that have been friendly to the United States. A hostile, destabilized Gulf would indeed be against the best interests of the U.S.

Now let's be honest. AIPAC and the Administration have disagreed from time to time on whether we should go very far in helping the Saudis and the Jordanians. The President has made it clear he would not permit the sale of any equipment to these countries to threaten Israel's security. Nevertheless, these countries, which are directly threatened by the radical states, do need the wherewithal to defend themselves.

There's a third way we are protecting our interests and those of Israel in the region. It is through attempting to further a peace settlement between Israel and its neighbors.

The Administration remains committed to the President's September 1, 1982 peace initiative. That initiative fits squarely within the Camp David process. It conforms -- as any approach we endorse must -- to U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338.

We remain committed as well to a very simple proposition concerning negotiations of any kind. The PLO sponsors terrorism, and its charter still calls for the destruction of the "Zionist entity": So long as the PLO refuses to recognize Israel's right to exist and to accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the United States will neither recognize nor negotiate with the PLO.

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Despite setbacks in Lebanon and King Hussein's recent decisions, we believe that the time will come when all sides will see a negotiated settlement in their best interest. When that moment does arrive, it is overwhelmingly in Israel's interest for the United States to act as the honest broker, just as it has in the past.

Now, let me say something else that I know we disagree on. Nevertheless it must be said. Few actions could more undermine our capacity to play that broker's role with the Arab states than for the U.S. precipitously to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Jerusalem is just too emotionally charged a symbol for Moslems, as well as Christians and Jews. The U.S. position is clear: While Jerusalem must remain undivided, its final status can only be resolved in negotiations, not through unilateral acts.

But let me now be clear on one other thing -- this Administration will strive to facilitate such negotiations, but it will never attempt to impose a settlement.

Finding a path to real peace for Israel and its neighbors has long been a central objective of American policy. It was this commitment to peace that prompted the United States, France, Britain and Italy to send peacekeeping troops to Beirut. I believe America did the right and courageous thing in Lebanon. I believe it took a President of unusual courage and assuredness to send the Marines in, to give peace a chance, and, ultimately, when circumstances changed, to pull most of them back. A political storm has erupted on this, but history will show that the President, in concert with three staunch allies, was not afraid to act. Talks did start. There are 11,000 fewer terrorists in Lebanon than before. The bottom line is: We gave peace a chance. The President has spoken to Tom Dine personally to express his gratitude for AIPAC's support.

Here in essence is what President Reagan's policy has meant for Israel as it looks across the region: An America willing to stand up in difficult ways for peace between Israel and its neighbors; an America whose domestic policies have worked to move Middle Eastern oil from its position of overwhelming dominance on the world economic stage; an America willing to help see that the vast resources of friendly Arab states don't fall into more militant hands; an America wanting to see more statesmen like Sadat, more negotiation, less bloodshed; an America, in short, whose policy of strategic cooperation with Israel is tied to a firm, unified strategy towards the entire region.

In this time of turmoil, nothing could more undermine Israel's security than for that new mood of assuredness to dissipate and for us to return to the indecision of just a few years past.

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What could precipitate a return? Less confident leadership could, of course. But other things could, too.

For example, we have in the past year been experiencing the first low inflation recovery in twenty years, the strongest job growth in more than thirty years and the largest number of new business incorporations ever. We've put the genie back in the bottle. That's a big part of why, for the first time since the mid-sixties, the optimism Americans report about their future and the nation's future has sharply increased during the past three years. And that broad and growing confidence is indispensable for maintaining political support for a confident foreign policy.

The new mood of assuredness is, as I said at the beginning, the product of a new confidence in democratic values. But the capacity to translate that mood into policy is a product of the success of this Administration's entire program.

And wherever men and women look with hope to the traditions of western democracy -- the traditions of freedom and justice -- America's new mood of assuredness is a beacon of hope.

For Jews around the world, this is especially true.

In Central America, for example, the regime in Nicaragua has driven practically every Nicaraguan Jew out of the country. How come we've heard so little on this from those who are running for President on the other side? They spend so much time slamming our policies in Central America on human rights grounds -- yet on this, not a word.

In the Soviet Union, Jews have also been unmercifully harrassed. Only fifty synagogues remain in the entire country, and private services are outlawed. The access of Jews to university educations has been sharply curtailed. Jews like Kim Fridman, Feliks Kochubievskiy, Iosif Begun and Anatoly Shcharansky are languishing in prison on specious and unfounded charges.

And I can tell you now that the Soviet leadership understands that if it wants to signal us that it is truly interested in a thawing of relations, this is one place where they can send a signal. And they understand as well that whenever, wherever, on whatever topic they meet with us, the issue of Soviet Jewry is potentially on the table.

We have and will continue to advocate publicly and privately and without letting up the cause of divided families and human rights. We have and will continue to care about the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union.

That caring is a matter of conscience. Through it we hope to give hope to oppressed people everywhere.

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Now, let me digress for a minute -- I hope it's appropriate -- and say a few words about something that has been bothering me more and more over the last couple of weeks.

I've been keeping quiet about the Democratic Party's Presidential campaign. Whom the Democrats pick is their business. But some matters transcend party and concern the basic traditions of our republic.

Anti-Semitism, wherever it appears, is a disgusting disease -- but particularly when it appears in our country, where its presence defiles our most sacred traditions and institutions.

Recently a prominent supporter of the Reverend Jesse Jackson -- a Black Muslim minister -- got a lot of press when he threatened a reporter. In itself this threat was a revolting injection of the specter of violence into the campaign. But several weeks before he had threatened all Jews.

Yesterday's Washington Post noted that it's a "disgrace" that Reverend Jackson "has refused to disavow unequivocally" this kind of extreme statement and that he "continues to distance himself from his responsibilities in this affair."

Well, I agree. But as shocking as I find Reverend Jackson's behavior, I also cannot understand why Walter Mondale and Gary Hart have not continued to speak out loudly and clearly against this.

I tell you here and now for the President and the entire Administration that we denounce the intrusion of anti-Semitism into the American political process and believe it has no place in our system.

Around the globe, many people -- unseen, unheard, and too often, unremembered -- depend on the new American confidence, the new mood of American assuredness.

They depend on it for their hope of freedom and justice.

Those who are most oppressed and at greatest risk depend on it most.

They know, as we know, that in freedom and justice is the affirmation of life. They know, as we know, that without freedom, without justice, and without democracy (which is the one sure guarantee of both freedom and justice) life, however noble, withers. They remember, as we remember, the Scriptural injunction:

"I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life."

(Deuteronomy, 30:19)

Thank you.

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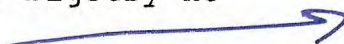
Clark

Speech

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY
VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
TO THE IDA CROWN JEWISH ACADEMY
ROGERS PARK, ILLINOIS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1984

Before we get started with questions and answers I thought I'd say a few words. I'd like to tell you why I got into politics.

The only reason, it seems to me, to go into politics is because you believe in something. There're basically three things -- you might call them principles but they're deeper and broader than that; they're really traditions founded on principles -- three traditions, then, that I believe in and that've shaped and guided my political life. Part of why I enjoy working with President Reagan is that these same three traditions have been at the center of his political life, too.

The first is the tradition of American pluralism, the honoring of diversity in American life. Now, of course, the most renown early statement of this tradition was President Washington's to the Jewish Congregation of Newport, Rhode Island. You know: "The Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance...." 

I feel that one of the principle tasks of each generation is to confirm and strengthen this pluralistic heritage. Let me give you an example of pluralism at issue today. The tuition tax credit. The President and I favor it. We believe that it'll heighten competition and the result will be improvement in the quality of public as well as non-public schools.

But even more than that -- the great flowering of non-public schools in this century has occurred in communities such as yours. Communities in which people share a faith -- Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, whatever -- and want the ethics of that faith incorporated into the education of their children. We're talking here, for the most part, about parents with average incomes. Not rich...not by a long shot. And yet they're paying both local school taxes and tuition. For us, supporting the tuition tax credit is part of honoring the tradition of pluralism.

So, too, are the battles we've waged against crime, pornography and racial and ethnic quotas. Crime and pornography attack the fabric of every community, while quotas are a way of saying that members of some communities will be discriminated against while the members of others are favored. The President and I believe that each of these, in its way, is repugnant to the

American tradition of pluralism and so we're doing what we can to oppose them.

The second tradition that has guided my political life involves America's responsibility to stand up for peace, freedom and democracy around the world and to help the oppressed resist aggression. This is why President Reagan and I feel so strongly about what's going on right now in Central America. In El Salvador we have a country that has turned to democracy. And we want to promote the success of democracy there. In Nicaragua a Marxist-Leninist regime is lowering a Soviet style oppression on the people. You've heard about the oppression of Catholics there, particularly the clergy. But it doesn't stop with Catholics. Religious minorities -- including, most prominently, Jews -- have also been persecuted.

Our commitment to peace, freedom and democracy throughout the world is at the heart of our commitment to Israel. Some politicians seem to oppose almost all uses of American power -- but they make a special exception for Israel. Well, that's, obviously, politics, but beyond that, if the American public and leadership doesn't believe that our country should, as a general rule, stand up for its ideals, how long can we expect it to remain "politic" to keep Israel as a special exception?

Commitment to peace, freedom and democracy -- that's why we've been so determined that the U.S. not let anti-Semitic outbursts at the U.N. pass unanswered nor stand for the equating of Zionism with racism. Some of the ambivalence on this in the previous Administration amazed me. But, then, I was also amazed and, frankly, disgusted that the Democratic Party's leadership found a platform plank condemning anti-Semitism too controversial to bring to the floor of their convention. There are no circumstances under which condemning anti-Semitism and repudiating anti-Semites should be controversial in our republic.

Anyway, returning to the U.N., I'm proud we have there an eloquent champion of America's ideals -- Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick.

I'm proud that the President has put on record the commitment that if Israel should ever be voted out of the U.N., the U.S. will go out with it.

I guess, in general, I'm proud that I serve with a President who doesn't go around the world apologizing for America.

Now, the last tradition that's shaped my career in public life is the American tradition of opportunity. Restoring this tradition of opportunity has, of course, been one of the central

themes of the last four years.

We inherited from our predecessors the worst economic mess in 50 years. Yet last year inflation was at the lowest rate in almost 20 years; unemployment fell at the fastest rate since 1951; more new jobs were created in the last 20 months -- 6.7 million -- than in almost any 20 months in our history; more new businesses were created last year -- 602,000 -- than in any other year in our history. There's work; there's hope; there are jobs; there's opportunity for young people starting out and for all Americans once more. That makes me proud.

And the way we did it makes me proud, too: Lower taxes, fewer unnecessary regulations, a slower rate of growth in government spending -- which is just to say less government, more freedom, more opportunity. This economy hasn't grown the way it has because the people relied on government but because government trusted in the people.

So those are the three traditions that have shaped and guided my life in politics -- dedication to pluralism; dedication to standing up for peace, freedom and democracy throughout the world and dedication to preserving and enlarging opportunity for all Americans here at home.

For me politics, when it honors these traditions, is among the highest celebrations and affirmations of life. You might say that it's the way I remember and respond each day to the Scriptural exhortation: "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life." ((Deuteronomy, 30:19))

((Now before I take questions, let me say that I know it's the New Year coming up, so let me wish each of you and your families a "shanah tovah" and in this season of hope and optimism we might each do well to contemplate the spirit of hope and optimism that is ours just by virtue of being Americans.))

~~Barack~~
Obama

THE VICE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Saturday, October 27, 1984

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EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY
VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
BEFORE THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE
ZIONIST ORGANIZATIONS OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON, D.C.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1984

excellent

Everywhere I've gone in the country this year, I've sensed a new pride in America and in what America stands for. And part of that new pride has been a new appreciation of the importance of a strong American foreign policy that stands up for our country's highest ideals in every corner of the globe.

Today I want to talk to you about that new pride, about a new mood of assuredness that has come to the conduct of foreign policy under this President and about what all this means to such close and strategic American friends as the State of Israel.

And I want to start by reaffirming a faith and a tradition. I said these words in my April address to AIPAC and I say them to you again now. "Ronald Reagan and I believe that the western democratic tradition is fundamentally right for all mankind.... Freedom, justice and democracy: promoting these, we believe, is in the fundamental interest of the United States. And, I said, if you believe that, you must believe it an absolute moral imperative to help strengthen and protect the State of Israel." I will stand by those words as long as I hold public office.

I don't need to tell you how this confidence in western democratic values has transformed American foreign policy these last four years. I'm not going to recite the last Administration's record of vacillation towards NATO, the Middle East, Central America, the Soviet Union and in virtually every area of their responsibility. I'm not going to rehearse the consequences of that indecision on Iran, the strength of our alliances, our dependence on Middle Eastern oil or the rest. The list is just too long and depressing.

But I will say this, as just one example. Gone are the days when our delegation to the United Nations didn't know whether it should vote for or against resolutions condemning Israel.

Now you know, if there's any place to see how things are changed from four years ago, it's at the U.N. Contrast the ambassador through most of the past Administration with our ambassador today. I don't believe there's any more forceful and determined champion of the western democratic tradition than Jeane Kirkpatrick.

President Reagan and I admire and support the way she has stood up to the obscene anti-Semitism so often heard in U.N. debate. Under this Administration, the United States will not let go unchallenged attempts to equate Zionism with racism. We know those charges for what they are -- just another mask for viscious anti-Semitism.

And while we're on the subject of the U.N. and international bigotry, let me reaffirm two pledges right here. The President and I have repeated each many, many times.

~~First~~ pledge: If Israel is ever voted out of the U.N., the U.S. will go out with it.

~~Second~~ pledge: Concerning the PLO, so long as the PLO refuses to accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and to recognize Israel's right to exist, the United States will neither recognize nor negotiate with the PLO.

But it's not only in U.N. debate that the U.S. and Israel have stood more and more closely together these last four years. Both our military and economic relations have matured.

Under this Administration the United States has recognized Israel for what it is -- as the area's one true democracy, our foremost strategic friend in the Middle East. That recognition led, of course, to the strategic cooperation agreement that the President and then Prime Minister Shamir announced last year.

Joint military exercises have been held and prepositioning of equipment is under discussion. We are helping to fund the Lavi fighter and the President has recently authorized the sale of critical technologies to Israel for use in the fighter. The United States under this Administration is committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative edge in armament over any potential combination of adversaries.

We have also taken a strong interest in helping the Israeli economy. We've changed the American military aid package from loans to grants -- grants of \$1.4 billion that, with economic aid of \$1.1 billion, will produce a total package of \$2.5 billion. But in the long term, Israel must restructure its economy. The key to Israel's long-term economic health is to increase her exports. To help Israel in this effort, the President sponsored the creation of the

Israel/American free trade relationship. This is a landmark event in the relationship between Israel and the United States.

With all of this happening, you can see why, following his meeting with the President two and a half weeks ago, Prime Minister Peres told the press that relations between the United States and Israel "have reached a new level of harmony and understanding" and that "I have found in the White House a true friend of Israel."

Accompanying Mr. Peres in his visit was Foreign Minister and former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Several months ago, as Prime Minister, Mr. Shamir delivered the same assessment when he told Time magazine that "relations with the U.S. are better than ever before."

Now none of this means that Israel and the U.S. have no differences. Of course we do, on the moving of the embassy and arms sales to certain Arab governments, for example. But these are merely the honest differences that friends and allies always have.

And it's as friends that the U.S. and Israel recently suffered common tragedies. In Lebanon, American Marines -- together with British, French and Italian troops -- helped remove 11,000 PLO terrorists from Beirut. That international mission to Lebanon was an effort to give peace a chance both in Lebanon and in the region.

This mission became, as well, a tragic one with the terrorist suicide attack on the Marine barracks. And Israeli troops, of course, suffered a similar attack just a few days later.

I hope that this dual tragedy helps us all appreciate more fully the menace of international terrorism. And I hope we will see terrorism's character clearly. Terrorism is not only or even predominantly a Palestinian phenomenon. It is truly international. Many local groups have broad and, often, common international connections and couldn't operate as they do without those connections.

Isn't it time that we recognize this and join with our allies in a truly international drive against terrorism? Under the able leadership of Secretary Shultz, the State Department is focusing, as never before, on international terrorism and what can be done about it.

Let me assure you of one thing: the United States under this Administration will never -- never -- let terrorism or fear of terrorism determine its foreign policy. We're too great, too proud and too principled a nation for that.

The change and improvement in our relations with Israel has been part of a broad shift in the entire sweep of American foreign policy. America is more confident of its values under President

Reagan. We're also economically and militarily stronger. And that has foreign policy consequences.

Now let me be very clear about this. Few things could hurt our friends and allies, including Israel, more than for the United States to return to the debilitated economic state we found when we came into office. America today has conquered 21½ percent interest rates and 12½ percent inflation. And for the first time since the mid-sixties Americans these last three and a half years have reported sharply increased optimism about both the nation's future and their own. This confidence is indispensable for maintaining broad political support for a confident foreign policy. The President and I are determined to see that the recovery remains strong and that Americans of all ages and backgrounds can look to a future filled with hope and opportunity. The Administration won't be satisfied until every American who wants work has work.

And let me say something similar about our military strength. We have taken a lot of heat from our opponents on defense spending. If we were ever to heed those who would cripple America's defense rebuilding program, we would undermine our own security and the security of our closest friends -- like Israel, like NATO. As long as President Reagan and I are in office, that's not going to happen.

Now, I've spoken principally about foreign policy, but before I conclude I want to address the same basic theme -- the affirmation of our western democratic tradition.

Racial, ethnic and religious discrimination have no part in that tradition. That's why under this Administration the Justice Department has filed more criminal charges on civil rights violations, brought more violators to trial and achieved more civil rights convictions than ever before.

It's also why we have taken a strong stand against quotas, and why the President fought so hard for the appointments of Clarence Pendleton and Morris Abram to the Civil Rights Commission. And it's why the Justice Department has taken part in a number of suits challenging quotas. In his "I Have a Dream" speech Martin Luther King said that he looked forward to an America in which all are judged "not on the color of their skins, but on the content of their character." That's our dream, too. That's part of the American dream, and we're going to continue to fight for it.

Fighting anti-Semitism is part of fighting for that dream. America has no room for anti-Semitism or for bigotry of any kind.

There has been a lot of talk in this campaign, coming from our opponents, about who is going to be choosing future members of the Supreme Court if we are re-elected. One person -- one alone -- will decide, and that is President Reagan. The President of the United

States has nominated one member of the Supreme Court, Sandra Day O'Connor, and I think that the overwhelming majority of Americans would say that Justice O'Connor has been an outstanding member of the Court.

I mentioned that only because if our opponents are so concerned about civil and religious rights, where were they when the opportunity for leadership arose just last July. Why is it that under the leadership of Walter Mondale, the Democratic Party in its convention in San Francisco was unable and unwilling to ratify what the overwhelming majority of the American people stand for -- a resolution, a simple resolution, condemning anti-Semitism and disassociating the Democratic Party from bigotry in all forms.

We adopted such a plank condemning anti-Semitism at our convention last August in Dallas. It was the right thing to do.

We as Americans -- not as Republicans or Democrats, but as Americans -- have an obligation to our most sacred traditions to defend the fundamental pluralism of American life. That means standing up to anti-Semitism or any other form of repression or humiliation of minorities. It means battling against quotas. It means standing for the basic political freedoms -- speech, press, assembly -- and for the separation of church and state. It also means defending the rights of others to practice their faiths or refrain from practicing any faith as they see fit.

This is why, for example, when the Connecticut courts struck down a statute protecting employees who observe the Sabbath, our Administration asked the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the decision.

Before I close, I just want to say how pleased I am that you have invited me here today and how hopeful I am that all of us together can continue the march for freedom and continue our pursuit of the great ideal of making America better and the world a better place for all mankind.

I am hopeful that we will be successful a week from Tuesday, and that you will be with us on that day. But with us or against us, I just want you to know that this Administration, in the past nearly four years, has been open to you, to listen to your cares and concerns, and in the next four years of a Reagan Administration, you are, as you have always been, welcome.

Thank you again.

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THE VICE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FOR RELEASE: 1:00 p.m. EDT
Friday, September 14, 1984

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EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY
VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
TO THE JEWISH REPUBLICAN COALITION
WASHINGTON, D.C.
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excellent

It's great to be here today.

I saw so many of you in Dallas. You know, I remember, after the President's speech, standing up there on the platform and listening to Ray Charles sing. I couldn't help thinking how far we've come these last four years. And I couldn't help feeling proud.

Four years ago, in the economy, in foreign policy we had a leadership that was almost totally demoralized. In all areas of their responsibilities they appeared to have lost confidence in the American people and in the most central traditions of the American democratic experience.

The Carter "malaise" speech was the most obvious example of this, but we saw many other less dramatic but, because they dealt with the substance of policy, more distressing instances.

Probably the worst consequences came in foreign policy.

From vacillation on deployment of important weapons systems (when allies counted on us and we pulled the rug out from under them), from abrupt turnabouts in policy and votes at the United Nations, from the consequences of the humiliation in Iran, from a policy towards the Soviet Union that swung from hard line to soft line and back to hard sometimes (it seemed) overnight -- well, we've come a long, long way.

Today things are very different.

Today we have a President who believes in the fundamental traditions of the American democratic experience and who isn't afraid to stand up for them in our relations with the world.

And it's this belief, this firmness and dedication to

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democratic institutions throughout the world that underpins this Administration's policy towards Israel.

You know how President Reagan has stood with Israel.

At the U.N, he has appointed as ambassador a good friend of Israel and surely one of the clearest voices ever for America's commitment to democratic institutions -- Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick.

This Administration stands against the obscene anti-Semitism that has, in recent years, infected U.N. debate.

This Administration stands against the equating of Zionism with racism. And let me reassure you that I cannot imagine any realistic circumstances under which this President would entertain the notion of the United States voting for U.N. resolutions condemning Israel. Indeed, just a few weeks ago at the U.N. Population Conference in Mexico City, the U.S. joined Israel in opposing and voting against a resolution that attacked the State of Israel.

And there's one other thing that you know, but let me repeat it here: If Israel is ever voted out of the U.N., the United States will walk out with it.

It's very simple. Because this Administration stands for freedom and democracy throughout the world, we will not dismiss as mere rhetoric the intrusion of anti-Semitism into international discussions on any level. For example, concerning the PLO -- the PLO sponsors terrorism, and its charter still calls for the destruction of the "Zionist entity;" so long as the PLO refuses to recognize Israel's right to exist and to accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the United States will never recognize nor negotiate it.

But U.S. support for Israel has reached far beyond the U.N. during this Administration.

We are pursuing the creation of an Israeli-American free trade area. This will give Israeli business full access to the American market and, in turn, put American business on an equal footing with Europe in the Israeli market.

Even more importantly, we have announced a new, formal relationship of strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel. The American-Israeli Joint Political-Military Group has already begun regular meetings. Together we're discussing how to meet the Soviet threat in the Middle East.

We've also renewed an American-Israeli Memorandum of Agreement concerning military research and development and procurement

and logistics. Under it, we are making available the most advanced technology for the development of the LAVI fighter and for a new class of missile attack boat, the SAAR 5. We remain totally committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative edge in armaments over any possible combination of adversaries.

Of course, the U.S. and Israel don't agree on everything -- for example, moving the Embassy to Jerusalem. But these are, as I said in Dallas, the kind of honest differences that friends and allies have.

Finding a path to real peace for Israel and its neighbors has long been a central objective of American policy. It was this commitment to peace that prompted the United States, France, Britain and Italy to send peacekeeping troops to Beirut. I believe America did the right and courageous thing in Lebanon. I believe it took a President of unusual courage and assuredness to send Marines in, to give peace a chance. I believe that history will show that the President, in concert with three staunch allies, was not afraid to act. Talks did start. There are 11,000 fewer terrorists in Lebanon than before. The reconciliation process started. The bottom line is two fold: We did not and will not let international terrorism deter us from doing what's right and we gave peace a chance.

We must keep pressing for a lasting peace for Israel. The President's September 1982 peace initiative must go forward. We look to the day when the Israeli people can live within secure and recognized boundaries, at peace with their neighbors, and when all the peoples of the region can live together free from terror.

It all adds up to just one thing -- and don't take it from me. Take it from Yitzhak Shamir, who told Time magazine recently that, "Relations with the U.S. are better than ever before."

For the same reason that the NATO alliance today is stronger than ever before, our relations with Israel are stronger than ever before.

For the same reason that we have stood for democracy in Central America and, without equivocation, against Marxist-Leninism in Nicaragua, we stand for Israel's security in the Middle East.

And the reason is simply that we have a strong, principled President who isn't afraid to stand firmly against whatever pressures in support of peace, freedom and democracy.

He's not afraid to stand up to bigots and haters in the international community. He's not afraid to stand up to bigots and haters at home.

President Reagan states his principles clearly, as he did,

for example, at B'nai B'rith last week, and he sticks by them.

I believe that we're going to do very well in this election. In Dallas I said that I believe that we're going to do better than the 40 percent of the Jewish vote we got last time. We're going to need your help to do it, but, let me tell you -- I believe we can win the Jewish vote.

I believe we can do better in all groups, among all races, among all age and economic categories than anyone today is predicting. Under President Reagan, America is standing once more throughout the world for the highest American principles. Under President Reagan, America is having the greatest economic expansion in more than 30 years. Under President Reagan, Americans are facing the future with pride and optimism and determination. That's why we're going to do better than anyone thinks. Because under President Reagan we're all saying with pride again, "I am an American."

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